

STANISLAUS SENIORS CELEBRATE RING CEREMONY



Members of the St. Stanislaus College Class of 2010 received their senior rings during evening ceremonies at Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic Church in Bay Saint Louis recently. The Senior Ring Mass and Ceremony is one of a variety of events held during the year for the senior class. Father Dennis Carver, a 1970 graduate of St. Stanislaus and pastor of Holy Family Parish in Pass Christian, celebrated the Ring Mass and pronounced a blessing over the class rings. The rings were distributed by Br. Ronald Hingle, SC, president; Paul Verlander, principal; Susan Estrade, assistant principal for supervision and activities; Patrick McGrath, dean of academics; Jeff Anderson, dean of students; and Jeremy Clark, director of residency. Pictured: SSC seniors Matt Renz and Philip Prieur.

Sports

1B

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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2009



TIM ISBELL/SUN HERALD

St Stanislaus quarterback Dylan Favre throws a touchdown pass in the first half as Cobi Smith of Greene County applies pressure.

Jackson TD Club honors Dylan Favre

By AL JONES

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Dylan Favre, fresh off guiding St. Stanislaus to a 4A South State championship, picked up his first individual postseason award Monday when he was named the Jackson Touchdown Club's Player of the year.

Favre, while in Jackson with Rockachaws coach Forrest Williams for the press conference for Saturday's state title game against Lafayette County, received the award after breaking nearly every Mississippi High School passing record en route to a 13-1 record.

For Favre, the most important thing is St. Stanislaus' battle with Lafayette County for the Overall Class 4A state championship at Mississippi Veterans Memorial Stadium at 3 p.m. Saturday.

"It's the same as the records," Favre said. "This is a team honor. I want to win a state championship."

"It does feel nice to be recognized, in somebody's opinion, that you are the best player in the state. I am not much into honors because I can't throw a touchdown without the line blocking

Dylan Favre state marks

Dylan Favre state records:

562: Single-game passing yards
60: Single-season TD passes
5,170: Single-season passing yards
76: Single-season TD responsibility
6,347: Single-season yards total offense
141: Career TD passes
12,140: Career passing yards
164: Career TD responsibility
13,755: Career yards total offense

or the receivers running routes. Also, we don't get the ball on offense if the defense does not stop (opponents). That makes this a team award."

Entering the Rockachaws first championship game, Favre has thrown for 5,170 yards and 60 touchdowns this season.

For his career, the neph-

FAVRE TO 4B

FAVRE FROM 1B

ew of Minnesota Vikings quarterback Brett Favre has throw for 12,140 yards and 164 touchdowns. Not counting Saturday.

The award came one day after Brett Favre threw for 396 yards in the Vikings 36-10 win against Chicago.

"I'm proud of him for the way he has played," Brett Favre said. "And how he has carried himself (throughout his career)."

With the award headed for the same trophy case that his uncle's achievements occupy, all eyes will be on Lafayette County.

"Winning a championship is our dream," Favre said. "I thought all year we had a chance to get to Jackson, especially with the new classification,

"But after we beat Quitman in the playoffs, I knew we were going to be hard to beat."

On top of the Jackson Touchdown Club honor, Favre also earned a spot in the Offense-Defense All-American Bowl in Myrtle Beach, S.C., on Jan. 2.

But on Monday, it was the touchdown club honor where Williams called Favre the best player in the Mississippi.

"This used to be a Jackson Metro award," Williams said. "Bob Harrison made it a statewide award a few

years back and he felt Dylan was deserving of the award.

"I agree, I hope this is just the start for him and our team. Once people see us play on Saturday, they will understand why this team has been successful. Dylan is far and away the best player in the state of Mississippi. I think it's a family thing because the Favre's start playing football early. He is clearly the best player in the state."

Favre, although he doesn't like individual honors, he admits he does strive in leadership.

"There's no doubt," he said. "I don't mind that role at all. I actually put a lot of responsibility on myself. I enjoy it."

The Rocks will depart for Jackson on Friday and arrive at Memorial Stadium in time to watch South Panola and Oak Grove play for the 6A championship.

For Favre, that's when the 2009 season will come into perspective.

"We talked about it (playing in first title game)," he said. "We know we are going to play for a state championship but it has not set in yet, I think when we watch the 6A game, it will set in that we are playing on the biggest stage we can and we will be playing for a ring."

Showtime: Rockachaws ready to rumble

By JAMES JONES

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JACKSON — St. Stanislaus' run toward the Class 4A State Football Championship actually began a year ago.

Several Rockachaw players attended the 4A state finals last year, watching Noxubee County defeat D'Iberville 12-10 at Mississippi Veterans Memorial Stadium.

St. Stanislaus (13-1) gets its chance to win a state title, facing Lafayette on Saturday at 3 p.m. in Jackson.

"We took these guys to Jackson last year to watch D'Iberville," St. Stanislaus coach Forrest Williams said Monday. "We decided then that we would be back. Now, we are going back."

Williams, the Rockachaws' second-year coach, praised the players and coaching staff for the team's historic run.

"I'm excited about playing for the state title," Williams said. "I'm fired up being here and taking these guys to play for it all."

The Rockachaws will bring their high-octane passing attack to the state's capital, featuring quarterback Dylan Favre and wide receiver Krisjon Wilkerson.

Favre has thrown for 5,170 yards and 60 touchdowns,

both state single-season records. Wilkerson has 1,935 yards receiving.

"Records are nice, but I want to win a state championship," said Favre, who has attracted Division I interest from Memphis, Tulsa, Kansas, Florida International, Hawaii and Mississippi State.

Two points kept the Rockachaws from a perfect record, falling at Jackson Prep 21-20 three months ago.

Williams joked about changing St. Stanislaus' reputation as a football powerhouse, getting out of the shadows from the well-known basketball and soccer programs.

The Rockachaws have consistently reached the 4A state basketball tournament under coach Jay Ladner, including a semifinal berth last year.

St. Stanislaus won four state soccer titles, including three under current Pearl coach Andy Kivlan. The Rockachaws played for the state crown last year.

"It's great to finally play for a football championship," Williams said. "Jay does a great job with the basketball program. We also have a great soccer program. Football now gets a chance to win a title."

Sports

SECTION B

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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2009

INSIDE

Gulf Coast heading
to Heart of Texas Bowl, 4B

Game plan

What: Class 4A state
championship

Who: St. Stanislaus (13-1)
vs. Lafayette County (13-1)
When: Saturday, 3 p.m.

Where: Mississippi
Veterans Memorial
Stadium, Jackson

TV: Mississippi Public
Broadcasting



JOHN FITZHUGH/SUN HERALD

St. Stanislaus' offensive line starters — Michael Carter, from left, Chris Frigo, Cody Gollott, second row, Tyler Cowand and Chandler York; back, substitute Jarrod Bigott — take pride in protecting quarterback Dylan Favre.

IT STARTS UP FRONT

By AL JONES
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BAY ST. LOUIS

St. Stanislaus has steamrolled its way into the Class 4A State Championship Game behind the most prolific high school passing game the state of Mississippi has ever produced.



St. Stanislaus offensive line sets the stage for records

With Dylan Favre breaking nearly every passing record with a fleet of receivers like Boomer Scarborough, Krisjon Wilkerson, Zander Romano and Joe Klein, the 13-1 Rockachaws rolled through four playoff games by scoring 175 points.

But when the dust settles, a group of offensive players often go unnoticed. And the passing attack does not work without their efforts.

This group, despite stand-

ing toe-to-toe in an all-out battle in the trenches, would have it no other way.

Meet the offensive line of center Chris Frigo (6-2, 250), guard Michael Carter (6-1, 240), guard Cody Gollott (6-1, 252), tackle Chandler York (6-3, 285) and tackle Tyler Cowand (5-9, 248) — the “heartbeat” of the Rocks offense.

“They deserve as much credit, if not more than we do,” Favre said. “Every game is won up front.

They have been terrific this year. They take pride in what we do. They are not perfect, but they have been close all year.

“One thing, as a quarterback, if you do not have confidence in your line, you are worried about the rush. I don’t have to worry about that. All five of those guys have done a great job.”

How good is the St. Stanislaus O-Line?

STANISLAUS TO 5B

“I told them before the season that how far we go depends on how well they perform.”

Forrest Williams, St. Stanislaus coach

STANISLAUS FROM 1B

Entering Saturday’s title game, the unit, which includes senior Jarrod Bigott, has yielded 15 sacks.

“They have been special all year,” SSC coach Forrest Williams said. “They are a tough group and they are one of the strengths of this team.

“I told them before the season that how far we go depends on how well they perform. From left to right, along with Bigott, the sixth man, they’re the reason we’re playing for a ring.”

Frigo, a junior, is the man in the middle in charge of making proper calls to protect against blitz packages. Considering that teams, especially in the first four playoff games, have thrown a steady line of pressure from the outside as well as the inside, the offensive line has been solid.

Like Favre and his confidence in the line, Frigo and the line have confidence in the skilled players.

“We take a lot of pride in what we do,” Frigo said. “We have confidence in Dylan and we know the rest of the offense works as hard as we do. Because of how hard we all work, we are one together.”

Protecting Favre, however, is priority No. 1.

That includes protecting

Favre when he sprints out of the pocket on a running play out of the shotgun formation.

“Dylan only needs three seconds to get the ball off,” Frigo said. “He has a cannon for an arm. He will find the open guy really fast so all we have to do is hold the defense off a few seconds and he does the rest.

“Before every game, Dylan goes down the line and recognizes each of us. (In return) we go out and protect him. People (opponents) are taking shots at Dylan all game long. When he runs, you better stick to him because someone is going to try their best to blind-side him. We can’t have that. We have to protect him one more time.”

That will take place at 3 p.m. at Mississippi Veterans Memorial Stadium as the Rocks go after the school’s first football championship against Lafayette County.

Just before the offense takes the field, Favre will put his confidence in the O-Line.

That’s when the “heartbeat” of the Rocks offense gets running.

“We might not get the recognition,” Frigo said, “But we know we are part of the team. We don’t get noticed but we know that we all win together. That’s the most important thing.”

Sun Herald

★ PLAYER OF THE WEEK ★

Defense

BLAKE MORREALE
ST. STANISLAUS
COLLEGE
SENIOR

The Rockachaw linebacker made 15 tackles, including five solos and one sack, in a 35-16 win over Greene County last Friday.

Sports

SECTION C

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2009

Unsung linebacker corps a big key to SSC's title run

By AL JONES
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BAY ST. LOUIS — St. Stanislaus' run to the Class 4A state championship game has quietly come on the heels of its outstanding linebackers.

The Rockachaws' defense often get overlooked despite allowing 17 points per game this season while combining for 547 tackles.

Blake Morreale, Brice Thomas and Boomer Scarborough man the inside. On the outside are Kollin Cannon and Dylan Favre. Also in the mix is Sheldon Cantelli.

But the leader of this unit is Morreale, who has a school-record 171 tackles for St. Stanislaus (13-1).

"Blake is consistent every week and comes to play," Favre said. "He will give 100 percent every time he steps on the field. He isn't the most athletic, but plays his heart out. All he does is

Game plan

What: Class 4A state championship

Who: St. Stanislaus (13-1) vs. Lafayette County (13-1)

When: Saturday, 3 p.m.

Where: Mississippi Veterans Memorial Stadium, Jackson

TV: Mississippi Public Broadcasting

certainly not quick. But we do our jobs.

"We do have a lot of guys like Boomer and Dylan who play both ways and they do a great job. But I only play defense and because of that, I know I have to step it up. My job is to do my best and everything possible to help the team win."

Thomas has 155 tackles, and Scarborough at 108. Eight players, including defensive lineman Jeremy Forte, Jack Gibbons and Taylor Thomp-

son, have recorded more than 51 tackles.

The defense has stepped up during the playoffs despite allowing 81 points.

In the 4A South State championship game against Greene County, the Wildcats scored 14 points and had 132 total yards.

Thomas had 17 tackles. Morreale and Scarborough each had 15.

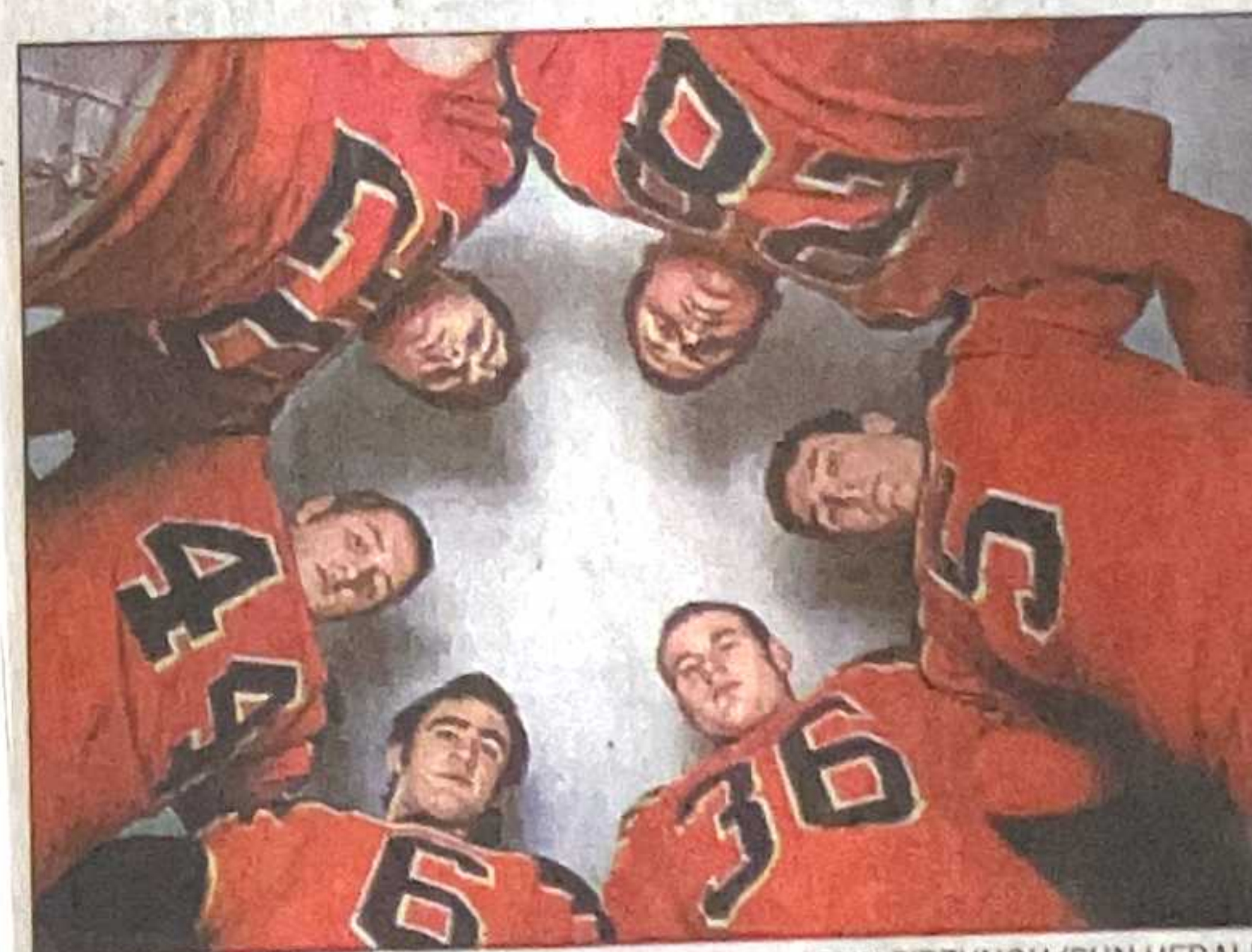
"Last year, we were all right on defense," Morreale said. "This year, the defense has stepped it up and we have matched the offense."

"We are not big and I am

son, have recorded more than 51 tackles.

"There's no doubt that the offense is going to score points," Morreale said. "We have no competition (between offense and defense). We do our job and they do their job. As long as we both do our jobs, we will get a win."

"Last year we went to watch D'Iberville in the state championship game as a team. We said we were going to come back a second time, but not to watch. It's time to take care of business."



JOHN FITZHUGH/SUN HERALD

St. Stanislaus linebackers Sheldon Cantelli (44), Dylan Favre (6), Boomer Scarborough (36), Kollin Cannon (5), Brice Thomas (20) and Blake Morreale (28) have kept opposing offenses air attacks quiet this year.

SunHerald

SOUTH MISSISSIPPI'S NEWSPAPER

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2009

WWW.SUNHERALD.COM

Favre ranks nationally

St. Stanislaus QB is among top passers



TIM ISBELL/SUN HERALD

St. Stanislaus quarterback Dylan Favre looks for an open receiver during a game against Forrest County AHS.

By JAMES JONES

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BAY ST. LOUIS — Dylan Favre will go down as one of the nation's greatest high school quarterbacks.

As the St. Stanislaus Rockachaws head into Saturday's Class 4A state title showdown against Lafayette County, Favre will finish his prep career among the nation's top passing leaders.

"I am not much into honors, because I can't throw a touchdown pass without the line blocking, receivers running routes or if the defense does not stop the opponents," Favre said. "It's a team award."

Favre has found himself a spot among the nation's career passing leaders, according to the National High School Federation.

He ranks fourth with 164 career total touchdowns. He also ranks as the fifth-best in career total yards, with 13,755 yards. Other marks are eighth in career touchdown passes (141) and ninth all-time passing yards (12,140). His 732 completions are six away from reaching the Top 10 nationally.

A strong performance Saturday against the Lafayette County Commodores (13-1) would cement Favre's status in the nation's Top 5 single-season leaders. He already holds the state's career and single-season records.

INSIDE

Learn more about the Lafayette County team the Rockachaws will face Saturday in the Class 4A state championship, **1D**

Web extra

See more photos of Favre and other national passing leaders at sunherald.com

Favre's highest single-season position on the national level comes at total yards, with his 6,347 yards ranking third all-time.

His single-season passing yardage (5,170) is currently seventh-best and could finish as high as fourth. His touchdown passes (60), completions (320), attempts (490) are all on the borderline of being in the nation's Top 10.

"I hope these marks are a precursor to him being named Mr. state football," Rockachaws coach Forrest Williams said. "He's certainly deserving and I don't see anyone else winning it."

Favre ranks ahead of former well-known NFL quarterbacks Tim Couch, Pat Haden, Chris Redman, Jeff George and Ty Detmer in career passing yards during their prep days.

Statewide, Favre owns 10 of the 11 career passing records in

See how Favre stacks up

St. Stanislaus quarterback Dylan Favre joined the ranks of national high school career passing leaders with career and single-season records.

Career records

Most Total Yards

Ben Mauk	19,628 yards	1999-2002
Chris Leak	16,590 yards	1999-2002
J.R. House	14,710 yards	1995-1998
Ken Hall	14,558 yards	1950-1953
Dylan Favre	13,755 yards	2007-2009

Single-season records

Most Total Yards

Ben Mauk	7,928 yards	2002
Ben Mauk	6,727 yards	2001
Dylan Favre	6,347 yards	2009
Patrick Hutka	5,953 yards	1997
Josh Floyd	5,878 yards	1998

INSIDE

Get more numbers and see where Favre ranks among these national leaders, **5A**



Berlin



Favre



Grossman



Leak



Mauk



Tate

FAVRE TO 5A

FAVRE FROM 1A

Mississippi, including three 500-yard passing games.

The only record Favre does not hold is most touchdown passes in a game. Clifton Davis III threw a record 10 TD passes in 1991 at North Panola, a feat Favre probably won't reach against the Commodores.

Division I scouts have slowly appeared on the radar for Favre as Memphis, Florida International, Tulsa, Kansas and Mississippi State are all interested in signing him.

"I'm interested to see where Favre ends up," said Steve Robertson, who covers Mississippi recruiting for Scout.com.



TIM ISBELL/SUN HERALD

Dylan Favre passes under pressure.

National high school records

Here are national high school records in six categories and where St. Stanislaus quarterback Dylan Favre stands among them:

Career records

Most total yards

Ben Mauk	19,628 yards	1999-2002
Chris Leak	16,590 yards	1999-2002
J.R. House	14,710 yards	1995-1998
Ken Hall	14,558 yards	1950-1953
Dylan Favre	13,755 yards	2007-2009

Most total touchdowns

Michael Hart	204	2000-2003
T.A. McClendon	178	1999-2001
Brett Henson	166	2002-2004
Dylan Favre	165	2007-2009

Most touchdown passes

Chris Leak	185	1999-2002
Ben Mauk	178	1999-2002
Rhett Lashlee	171	1998-2001
Brian Lindgren	162	1995-1998
Greg Paulus	152	2001-2004
J.R. House	145	1995-1998
Brock Berlin	145	1997-1999
Dylan Favre	141	2007-2009

Most passing yards

Ben Mauk	17,364 yards	1999-2002
Chris Leak	15,593 yards	1999-2002
J.R. House	14,457 yards	1995-1998
Brock Berlin	13,902 yards	1997-1999
Stefan Loucks	13,711 yards	2003-2006

Rhett Lashlee	13,201 yards	1998-2001
Brian Lindgren	12,575 yards	1995-1998
Jake Schliff	12,195 yards	1998-2001
Drew Tate	12,183 yards	1999-2002
Dylan Favre	12,140 yards	2007-2009

Single-season records

Most total yards

Ben Mauk	7,928 yards	2002
Ben Mauk	6,727 yards	2001
Dylan Favre	6,347 yards	2009
Patrick Hutka	5,953 yards	1997
Josh Floyd	5,878 yards	1998

Passing yards

Ben Mauk	6,540 yards	2002
Corey Robinson	5,872 yards	2007
Ben Mauk	5,770 yards	2001
J.R. House	5,526 yards	1998
Thomas Thrash	5,272 yards	2001
Chris Leak	5,193 yards	2002
Dylan Favre	5,170 yards	2009

Note: Here are the top 10 all-time lists Favre can enter on Saturday: Completions for career (he needs just six more) and single-season (16); touchdown passes for single-season (three), career attempts (22).

Sports

SECTION D

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2009



THOMAS WELLS/NORTHEAST MISSISSIPPI DAILY JOURNAL

Lafayette County quarterback Jeremy Liggins is a key player for the Commodores. They face St. Stanislaus in the 4A state title game on Saturday at Mississippi Veterans Memorial Stadium.

Unexpected surprise

Upstart Lafayette County reaches 4A state title game

By JAMES JONES

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JACKSON — Lafayette County wasn't expected to contend for the Class 4A state championship this season.

The Commodores (13-1) survived a tough road during their unlikely run to Saturday's 4A state title showdown against St. Stanislaus (12-1) at 3 p.m. at Veterans Memorial Stadium.

Lafayette County knocked off Shannon 24-13 while Itawamba AHS stunned defending 4A champion Noxubee County 29-14 in the quarterfinals.

Then the Commodores defeated previously-unbeaten Itawamba for the North State title.

"Our kids worked hard and put a lot of effort in getting here," Commodores coach Anthony Hart said. "Nobody gave us much of a chance and we used it to our advantage."

But not even Hart thought that Lafayette would be in this position. The Commodores had to replace 16 starters (nine offensively, seven defensively) from last year's team that reached the 4A quarterfinals.

"Who would've thought it?" Hart joked. "This is not the best team we've had, but



TIM ISBELL/SUN HERALD

St. Stanislaus' Kollin Cannon and the Rockachaws face Lafayette County on Saturday for the Class 4A state championship.

this is a great team. They are together on everything we do."

The Commodores are a sophomore-laden group led by talented quarterback Jeremy Liggins, who makes their offense go.

Liddell has thrown for 1,362 yards and 17 touchdowns. He's also rushed for 1,419 yards.

"Jeremy has a lot of poten-

tial," Hart said. "He's 6-foot-3, already has the size, and has played well for us this year."

Running back DeMarkus Dennis, another sophomore, is a solid complement to Liddell, rushing for 153 yards and two touchdowns against Itawamba.

Lafayette's defense will be in the spotlight trying to slow down a potent St.

Stanislaus passing attack, featuring the arm of quarterback Dylan Favre.

Defensive back Ontario Phillips, who had two interceptions last week, will likely be assigned to cover Rockachaws wide receiver Krisjon Wilkerson.

Itawamba was the only team to beat Lafayette this season, winning 25-19 in the regular season.

"This is not the best team we've had, but this is a great team.

They are together on everything we do."

Anthony Hart, Lafayette County football coach

SunHerald

SOUTH MISSISSIPPI'S NEWSPAPER

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2009

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CLASS 4A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Game unites rivals

Bay High shows support for St. Stanislaus



JOHN FITZHUGH/SUN HERALD

St. Stanislaus football coach Forrest Williams talks to the crowd Friday during the pep rally at the Bay St. Louis school leaving for Jackson to play today in the Class 4A state championship game.

By JAMES JONES
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BAY ST. LOUIS — Bay High has put aside its rivalry with St. Stanislaus for at least one week.

Tiger alumni and boosters have strongly supported St. Stanislaus' run to the Class 4A state championship game, which the Rockachaws play against Lafayette County today in Jackson.

The Bay High Steppers dance team appeared at St. Stanislaus on Thursday, handing out goodie bags for each football player, coaches, managers, ball boys, band members and cheerleaders.

Wally Cox, Waveland's Wal-Mart Manager, donated apples, oranges, bananas, Powerade and water for the Rockachaws' goody bag.

The Bay High Steppers'

donation was an idea developed by student Lyndi Cuevas, a member of the dance team and president of the Bay High Spirit Club.

"We are touched and pleased by this show of support, sportsmanship and community spirit by Bay High," St. Stanislaus Principal Paul Verlander said.

"We appreciate the gift, but we appreciate even more the spirit in which it was offered. I expect this gesture to be a harbinger of collegial cooperation between the two schools. I can't thank Dr. Ladner, Dr. Parker and Bay High enough."

Bay High Principal Andy Parker said the gesture was part of the school's Fish philosophy for the fall semester, which has four principles associated with the book: "Choose Your Atti-



JOHN FITZHUGH/SUN HERALD

Connie Heitzmann of Bay St. Louis gets the crowd fired up Friday during the pep rally for the St. Stanislaus football team at the Bay St. Louis school before players left for Jackson to play today.

tude, Be Present, Have Fun and Make Their Day!"

"Those events all culminated without all of us knowing what the other was doing: a perfect exam-

ple of implementing 'Making Someone's Day'" Parker said. "It's also a perfect example for young people to

RIVALS TO 4A



WEB EXTRA | See more photos from the pep rally at sunherald.com

RIVALS FROM 1A

see that rivalry has its place on game day.

"But that doesn't have to spill over into every other aspect of the two schools' relationship. I'm so proud of my student body and the school for showing such

outstanding sportsmanship and leadership for the community."

Bay High Athletic Director Will Seymour was glad to see the two sides come together for a great cause.

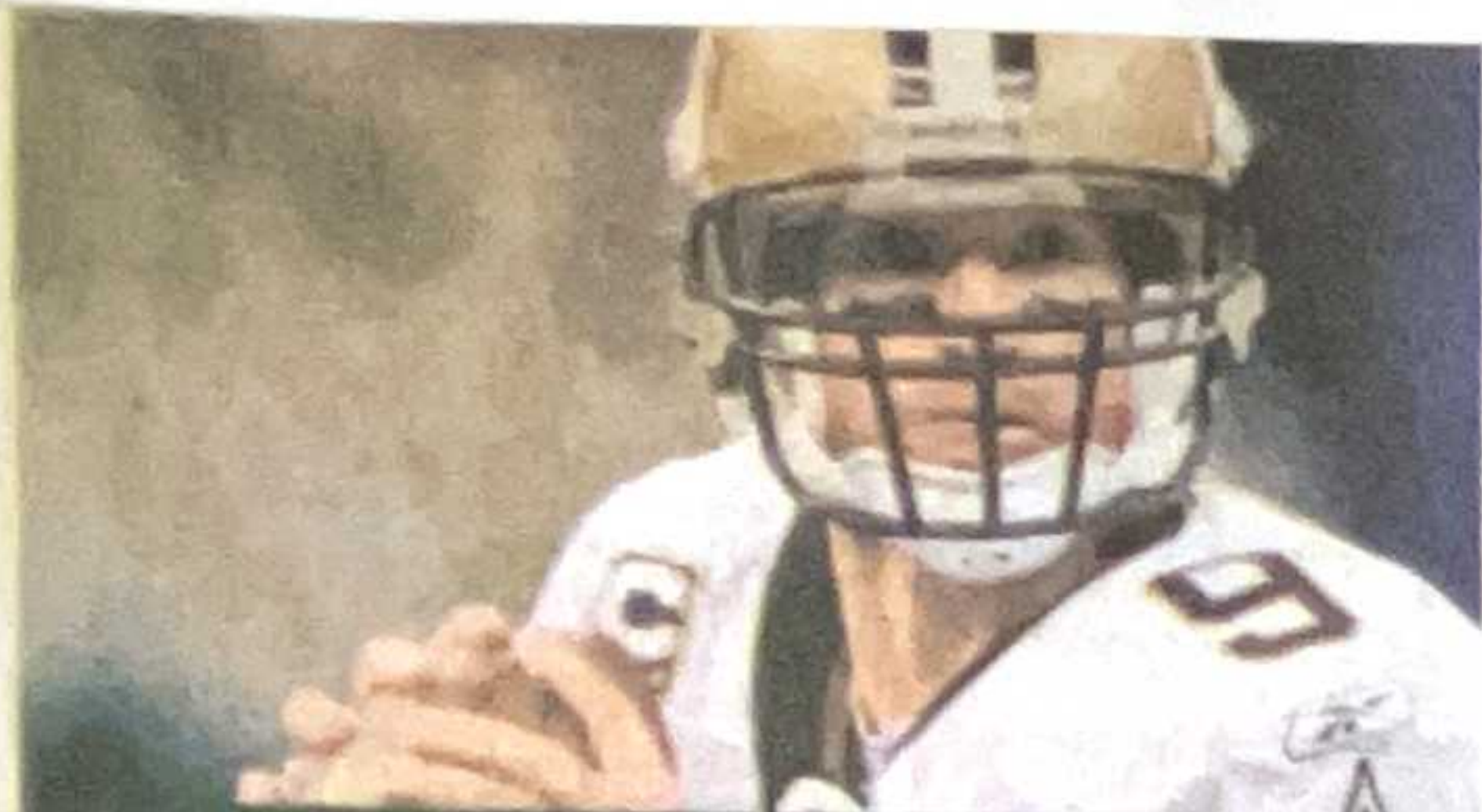
"I think it is a great thing for our community," Seymour said. "These kids grew up playing against each other.

It is a great rivalry and will always be a great rivalry. Whether either team wins or loses, we are all still a part of a great community.

"Our hats are off to SSC's players and coaches. We know they will represent our community well and bring the 4A state title home to Hancock County."

Businesses throughout Bay St. Louis also have posted a good luck message on their outdoor signs.

Hollywood Casino's giant electric sign unveils a huge Rockachaw logo. Bay High also has posted a message on its electronic sign in front of the high school that says "Good luck Rocks."



SUNDAY: THE 4A PLAYOFFS, SEC CHAMPS AND SAINTS PREVIEW

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Sports

SECTION C

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2009

CLASS 4A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP FOOTBALL GAME



JOHN FITZHUGH/SUN HERALD

St. Stanislaus linebacker Blake Morreale, left, and head football coach Forrest Williams offer their prediction for the 4A State Championship game during the pep rally for the team at the Bay St. Louis school on Friday.

SHOWDOWN SATURDAY

St. Stanislaus, Lafayette County clash
for state championship today

By JAMES JONES
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St. Stanislaus brings plenty of confidence in tonight's Class 4A state championship showdown against Lafayette County.

Especially through the eyes of Rockachaws linebacker Blake Morreale.

"We are ready," Morreale said. "With our offense, we look at getting three stops on defense. If we take care of business, we will win."

No one has found a way to slow down the Rockachaws (13-1), who average a mind-boggling 42 points a game. The Rockachaws feature two record-setting performers.

Quarterback Dylan Favre has thrown for 5,170 yards and 60 touchdowns, both single-season state records. He's also rushed for more than 1,100 yards.

Wide receiver Krisjon Wilkerson has 102 receptions for 1,935 yards and 23 touchdowns, also state records.

Lafayette coach Anthony Hart wonders if the Commodores (14-1) can slow down the high-scoring Rockachaws.

He compares St. Stanislaus' pass-happy attack to Texas Tech's spread offense. "St. Stanislaus throws the ball well," Hart said. "Favre is good. They're real meticulous about the way they



TIM ISBELL/SUN HERALD

St. Stanislaus defenders Jeremy Forte (4) and Dylan Favre will lead the unit in today's Class 4A championship game against Lafayette County.

More coverage, 4C

- Rosters.
- Starting lineups.
- Game-by-game results.
- Team leaders.

do things.

"The receivers run and catch the ball well. They do things right on their routes and throws."

Quarterback Jeremy Liggins makes the Commodores'

offense go, throwing for 1,362 yards and 17 touchdowns. He's run for 1,419 yards.

Liggins is joined in the backfield by Sam Booker (1,097 yards rushing) and sophomore Demarkus Dennis (903 yards).

Morreale (171 tackles), and fellow linebackers Brice Thomas (155 tackles) and Boomer Scarborough (108 tackles) plan to cause problems for the Commodores' young offensive squad.

"Lafayette will be a tough

opponent," Rockachaws coach Forrest Williams said. "They have a good team."

The Commodores played a rugged 4A North slate, while St. Stanislaus blew out opponents in the South State playoffs.

"We faced good teams in the South. Quitman, FCAHS and Greene County," Williams said.

The Rockachaws are two points away from being unbeaten, falling at Jackson Prep 21-20 three months ago.



WEB EXTRA | For more photos from Friday's pep rally, visit SunHerald.com

TIDE ROLLS

Mark Ingram ran for 113 yards as Alabama dominated Florida 32-13 for the SEC title, **1C**



SunHerald

SOUTH MISSISSIPPI'S NEWSPAPER

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2009

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\$1.50 VOL. 126, NO. 64

STATE CHAMPS

St. Stanislaus captures first-ever state title



TIM ISBELL/SUN HERALD

St. Stanislaus assistant coach Stu Rayburn gives quarterback Dylan Favre a hug after the Rockachaws won the 4A State Championship on Saturday in Jackson.

By JAMES JONES

jkjones@sunherald.com

JACKSON — The rare December snowfall and playing for the Class 4A state football championship were both exhilarating experiences for St. Stanislaus.

As the seconds ticked away in St. Stanislaus' 35-16 victory over the Lafayette County Commodores, several Rockachaw students celebrated by throwing snowballs at each other in the stands at Mississippi Veterans Memorial Stadium.

The Rockachaws (14-1) captured their first-ever state title in football, a trophy that can now go alongside Doc Blanchard's Heisman Trophy. Blanchard won the 1945

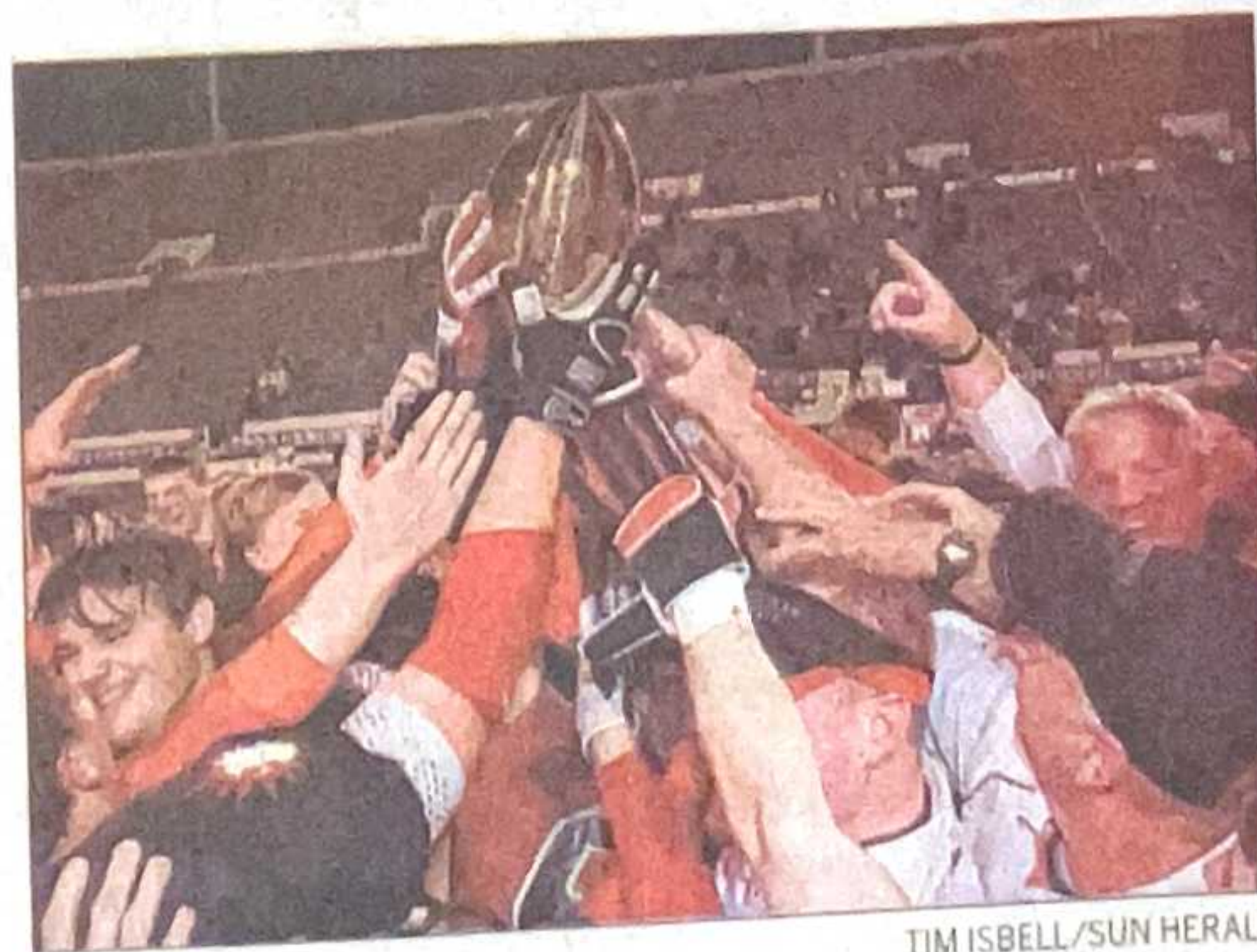
INSIDE

Opportunistic defense, Favre's stellar play lead Rockachaws to victory, 1C

Heisman at Army and donated the award to his alma mater in 1991.

"A lot of people did not think we could pull it off," St. Stanislaus coach Forrest Williams said. "We don't have a lot of guys with great vertical leaps and impressive 40-yard-dash times. We have a team that plays with a lot of heart and works hard."

Quarterback Dylan Favre broke one national single-season record: most total touchdowns (81). Favre received an added bonus Saturday afternoon, receiving a scholarship offer from South-



TIM ISBELL/SUN HERALD

St. Stanislaus players and coaches touch their state championship trophy after defeating Lafayette on Saturday.

ern Miss.

He had 430 yards in total offense and accounted for five touchdowns. He threw for 369 yards and three touch-

downs. He ran for 51 yards and two more scores.

"This is the greatest feel-

STANISLAUS TO 14A



WEB EXTRA | See more photos from the championship at sunherald.com

STANISLAUS FROM 1A

ing of my life," Favre said. "Words can't describe how I feel right now. We played together as a team."

Favre finished his prep career with 5,439 yards pass-

ing, 63 touchdown passes among the 10 state records in his collection.

St. Stanislaus ended the Coast's seven-year state championship drought in football, becoming the first Coast team since D'Iberville to win a state championship.

The Warriors won their 4A state championship crown in 2002.

Until the Rockachaws captured a Gold Ball, Ocean Springs (2004), George County (2007) and D'Iberville (2008) all fell short of winning it all.

Sports

SECTION C

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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2009

Reach us

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CLASS 4A CHAMPIONSHIP FOOTBALL GAME

A FITTING FINALE

Opportunistic defense, Favre's stellar play
lead St. Stanislaus to state title



TIM ISBELL/SUN HERALD

Lafayette County quarterback Jeremy Liggins fumbles the ball as Brice Thomas of St. Stanislaus moves in to recover it during Saturday's title game.

By JAMES JONES
jjones@sunherald.com

JACKSON — Defense set the tone as St. Stanislaus won its first-ever state football championship.

Linebackers Blake Morreale and Brice Thomas each made huge first-half fumble recoveries as the Rockachaws defeated Lafayette County 35-16 in the 4A state championship game on Saturday before an estimated 7,000 at Mississippi Veterans

Memorial Stadium.

"We talked about getting off to a great start on defense," St. Stanislaus coach Forrest Williams said. "We forced turnovers early."

The Commodores drove downfield on their opening possession and appeared en route to grabbing a 7-0 lead two minutes into the game.

Runningback DeMarcus Dennis fumbled into the end zone,

and Morreale recovered for the Rockachaws.

ST.
STANISLAUS

35

LAFAYETTE
COUNTY

16

"I wasn't involved on those plays, but I followed the ball," Morreale said. "When I saw the ball on the ground, I fell on it."

Thomas recovered the second Commodores' fumble in the opening quarter, setting up St. Stanislaus' first touchdown.

With the defense's fast start, record-setting quarterback Dylan Favre took over the

contest. He was solid, throwing for 369 yards and three touchdowns and rushing for two more scores.

Favre's 6-yard touchdown run gave St. Stanislaus (14-1) a 7-0 first-quarter lead.

And Favre made a play defensively in the second quarter, tackling Dennis a yard short on a fourth-and-2 at the Rockachaws 17-yard-line.

Favre threw touchdown passes

STANISLAUS TO 3C

For the Rockachaws, this night was theirs

JACKSON

It all started for St. Stanislaus, really, over the summer months. The extra time in the weight room. The wind-sprints when the merciless sun was bearing down. The Rockachaws were going to have to pay the price.

On Saturday evening, they cashed that sucker in,

St. Stanislaus has the first football state championship in school history, and true to form, the Rockachaws did it

in style. Dylan Favre threw the ball all over the place, and his receivers came up with some critical catches.

Favre, Boomer Scarborough and Chandler York played about every

meaningful down, and if they had played all night, they would have been fine with it.

St. Stanislaus beat Lafay-

COLUMN



Jim Mashek

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ette County 35-16 on Saturday at Mississippi Veterans Memorial Stadium, claiming with Class 4A state championship with a vengeance. The Rockachaws won 14 games

against a single defeat, a 21-20 loss to Jackson Prep, but few teams in prep football history, let alone in Mississippi, put

up yards and points like these guys.

Forrest Williams' SSC squad can take a bow. The Rockachaws have earned it.

"It's hard to put into words, really," senior wide receiver Krisjon Wilkerson said. "It's the best feeling ever, though. I can tell you that. We knew if we worked hard, the sky was the limit."

About that time, Wilker-

MASHEK TO 3C

WEB EXTRA | For more photos from Saturday's game, visit SunHerald.com

MASHEK FROM 1C

son was pulled onto the grass for the team photo in the east end zone. Soon he was joined by Scarborough, the rough-and-tumble receiver/linebacker, and Favre, the relentless quarterback who may have played the game of his life at free safety. (Media obligations, natch.)

Hey, in this game, the Rockachaws had to make plays on defense. Lafayette County has some serious quicks. The Commodores have some terrific athletes.

But St. Stanislaus was clearly the better team. If the Rocks had played Lafayette County 10 times, they'd have won nine of 'em, and this clearly wasn't going to be the Commodores' night.

From the moment they fumbled the ball into end zone on their first drive of the night, with SSC's Blake Morreale making the recovery for the touchback, the Commodores were in serious trouble.

Everyone's going to talk about Favre's numbers and the records and everything else, but the Rocks can play a little defense, too.

"I know our offense gets a lot of credit," Favre said, "but I can honestly say without our defense, we wouldn't be here."

Williams made a point to talk about how special Favre is as a teammate, about how he knew his window of opportunity came when he arrived at St. Stanislaus last year.

"A lot of guys will never get a chance to coach a

kid like Dylan Favre," Williams said. "These guys deserve it all."

Favre shared a special moment with his dad, Jeff Favre, as the Rockachaws stormed onto the field, with Williams hoisting the state championship trophy surrounded by grown men moved to tears by the team's accomplishment.

"Awesome. Just awesome," Jeff Favre said. "Every since Dylan was little, he wanted to play ball. It's a special group of kids. You couldn't have scripted it any better."

They could have, actually, if the late Irvin Favre, the patriarch of Hancock County's first family of football, had been around. He would have seen how Dylan slung the ball around the field just like his Uncle Brett did, at

least after leaving Hancock North Central for Southern Miss. Big Irv ran the wishbone and tried to control the clock.

Dylan Favre and St. Stanislaus try to run people out of the building with timing and precision and effort, and that's exactly what the Rocks did in this game.

"(Irvin Favre) didn't always tell you he loved you, or how much he cared, but he would always tell someone else," Dylan Favre said. "That was just his way. He loved the game, he loved his family. He's probably in tears right now."

With that, the SSC quarterback dabbed his own eyes and went to join his teammates. The night was theirs.

An exceptional athlete

I've got to praise St. Stanislaus' quarterback Dylan Favre. What a talent! This kid is so talented I can't conceive of any reason why he isn't being actively recruited by every college in the South. OK, He's 5'10" and 180 pounds. So what? The young man has a rifle of an arm, is extremely accurate, runs very well and is a tiger on defense. He plays both QB on offense and safety on defense and appears tireless. In this game's first half he has completed an exceptionally high percentage of his passes with no interceptions and no sacks. He looks, now, better than his uncle Brett looked when he played at Southern Miss.

Favre wraps up his SSC career in style

By JAMES JONES
jjones@
sunherald.com

Winning the Class 4A state championship was the perfect way for Dylan Favre to end his prep career at St. Stanislaus.

Favre leaves St. Stanislaus with a national record and 10 state passing marks.

But the Rockachaws' 35-16 victory over Lafayette County on Saturday before an estimated 7,000 at Mississippi Veterans Memorial Stadium meant more to Favre.

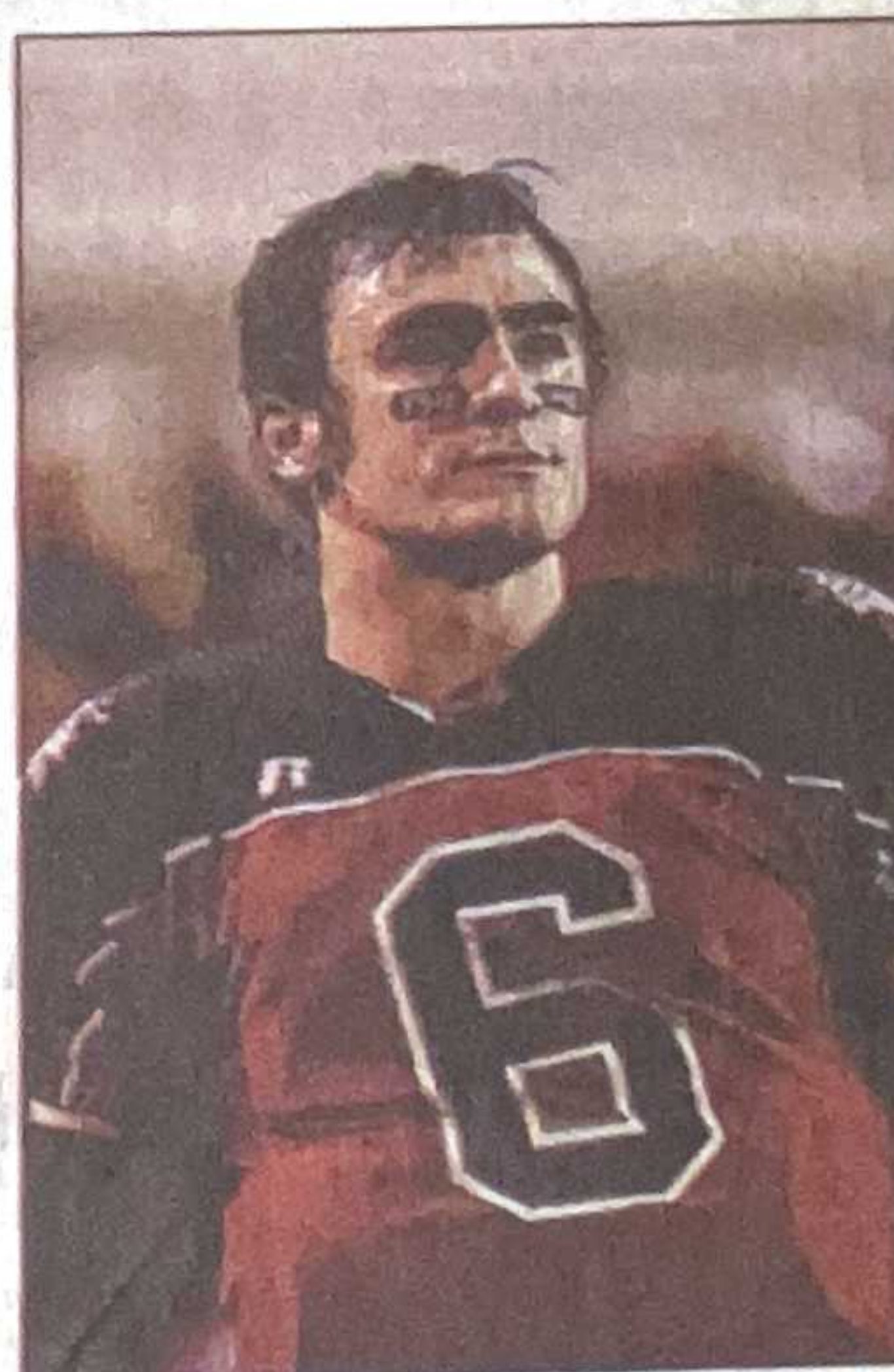
The Sun Herald's reigning offensive player of the year accounted for a national-record 81 total touchdowns in a season.

"I can care less about records," Favre said. "My senior year was all about bringing a state title back to St. Stanislaus."

Favre also hoped to convince Division I recruiters that he could play quarterback on the highest level.

Southern Miss, a place where his uncle starred before becoming a future Pro Football Hall of Famer, offered over the weekend.

"I'm going to see how it plays out," Favre said. "I'll



TIM ISBELL/SUN HERALD

St. Stanislaus quarterback Dylan Favre caused a stir with his play Saturday and by wearing FSU on his eye black during the game.

play. All I want is a chance to keep playing. "I play with a lot of passion and a lot of heart and if college coaches can't see that then maybe college ball isn't meant for me."

"I know I can play."

SSC coach Forrest Williams believes Favre showed that he deserved to play quarterback in this weekend's Mississippi-Alabama All-Star Game at Mobile's Ladd-Peebles Stadium. Lafayette coach Anthony Hart, who's coaching in the game, reportedly offered Favre a spot on the roster as an athlete, not a quarterback.

probably wait until right at the end to decide."

Florida International will also get a visit by the state's most prolific passer sometime next month, with Mississippi State also showing interest.

The 5-foot-11 Favre believed his point was made all season long for the Rockachaws (14-1).

"I'm not just a quarterback, I am a football player," Favre said. "I know I can

"If you look at the body of work he has done over the course of the year and the course of his career," Williams said. "There are some great quarterbacks, but he's the best quarterback in the state of Mississippi. He should've been in the game."

Favre moved up the national career passing records for single-season:

FAVRE TO 3B

FAVRE FROM 1B

second all-time in average total yards for a (453) and total yards (6,797 yards). He's also fourth all-time in passing yards (5,539 yards), 10th with touchdown passes (63).

On the career marks, Favre finished third with total touchdowns (170), fifth in total yards (14,205 yards) and passing yards (13,509 yards), eight with total touchdown passes (144). He's also 10th in completions (751) and attempts (1,237).

SSC's Williams went extra mile to prepare his team



TIM ISBELL/SUN HERALD

St. Stanislaus players and coaches embrace the 4A state championship trophy after beating Lafayette County in Jackson on Saturday.

Second-year St. Stanislaus coach Forrest Williams left no stone unturned in his pursuit of the Class 4A state football championship.

And as a result, the Rocks have brought the private, Catholic school in Bay St. Louis an unprecedented state title, plenty of national recognition and a quarterback with a familiar last name who can bring out the best in his teammates.

St. Stanislaus has a colorful history, serving primarily as a boarding

COLUMN



Jim Mashek
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 com

Bay St. Louis and Waveland, from Diamondhead and Pass Christian, even into other parts of Harrison County.

They all come together

to toil at aging Brother Phillip Memorial Stadium, where the lights could be brighter and the Brothers of the Sacred Heart do what they can to get the biggest bang for their buck.

They generated an explosion of positive pub in 2009.

Dylan Favre is the nephew of 40-year-old Minnesota Vikings quarterback Brett Favre, a legendary figure in Hancock County. Dylan Favre became the triggerman in the St. Stanislaus spread attack, and he developed quite the

chemistry with his teammates, his linemen and receivers alike.

On Saturday evening, in Mississippi Veterans Memorial Stadium, Favre and the Rockachaws brought SSC the Class 4A state championship in emphatic fashion, beating a quick, talented Lafayette County squad 35-16. The Rocks finished the season 14-1, losing only to Jackson Prep by a single point, and the school will throw a parade in their honor after school

MASHEK TO 4B

MASHEK FROM 1B

lets out on Wednesday.

Even the Bay High kids are down, as the SSC players learned in a send-off before the big game.

Williams, a scout-team wide receiver on Mississippi State's 10-2 Peach Bowl team in 1999, became a head football coach before he turned 30 and has spent time in the high school ranks in Mississippi, Alabama and Texas. He had a grand plan in mind for St. Stanislaus when he got there, in the spring of 2008, but he had to implement it on the fly before the Rock-

achaws finished 8-3, losing to Brookhaven in the first round of the 4A playoffs.

After that SSC season came to an end, however, Williams brought Favre and Boomer Scarborough and Chris Frigo and some of the other Rockachaws to Jackson, to watch D'Iberville take Noxubee County to the wire before losing in the 4A state championship game. He wanted to give his team a taste of the atmosphere, to know what to expect if they could put together a title run of their own.

Williams took his SSC players to different football

campso he could test his timing-oriented offense against teams from bigger schools in 7-on-7 tournaments. He took the Rocks to Jackson on Friday to catch South Panola's drubbing of Oak Grove in the 6A championship game, letting them bond in a team hotel before arriving at the stadium on Saturday.

In other words, dude thought of just about everything.

"I tell you, it sinks in a little bit more every day," Williams said. "A lot of people asked me before the game, 'Are you nervous.' I told them, 'Not at all.'"

I can vouch for that. Forrest always shares a laugh or two with media guys on the field before a game, whether it's in August or December. He'll be the first to tell you, this ain't rocket science. The hard work is over with. Playing the game should be fun.

"When you go in," Williams said, "and you know you're prepared for a test, you're not nervous to take it."

That much showed in the Rocks' performance.

And that much will show in their trophy case, too.

Jim Mashek can be reached at 896-2333

C
2

Opinion

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SUN HERALD | Editorial

We're all rockin' with the Rocks

St. Stanislaus' almost-perfect football season has ended on the highest note possible: the first state championship in the history of the Hancock County school.

The Rockachaws wrapped up a 14-1 season on Saturday with a 35-16 victory over the Lafayette County Commodores, placing Coach Forrest Williams' Rocks atop 4A football.

Record-smashing quarterback Dylan Favre closed out his high school career by throwing three touchdown passes and rushing for the Rocks' other two scores. Favre was almost as devastating on defense, which he also plays. He was credited with 17 tackles and an interception on Saturday at Mississippi Veterans Memorial Stadium in Jackson.

Rockachaw wide receiver Krisjon Wilkerson also had a capital day, finishing the season with 109 receptions for 2,087 yards and 25 touchdowns — a state record.

"People always talk about me throwing touchdown passes and our offense," Favre said. "If not for our defense, we wouldn't have won a state title."

Indeed, defense set the tone on Saturday as Rockachaw linebackers Blake Morreale and Brice Thomas each made huge first-half fumble recoveries.

Congratulations to Coach Williams and his players and all their fans for achieving a spectacular championship season.

SunHerald

SOUTH MISSISSIPPI'S NEWSPAPER

75¢ VOL. 126, NO. 68

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2009

WWW.SUNHERALD.COM

Rocks enjoy 'top of the mountain' at parade

Crowd celebrates state champions

By JIM MASHEK

jwmashek@sunherald.com

BAY ST. LOUIS — Waveland mayor Tommy Longo played football at St. Stanislaus in the early '70s, so he understands what it means to be a Rockachaw as much as anyone.

A crowd of about 500 turned out Wednesday afternoon at the Hancock County Courthouse after St. Stanislaus took a state championship victory parade — complete with floats, Mardi Gras beads and SSC souvenirs for the kids — through the city streets.

Friends and neighbors emerged from their homes

Web extra

See more photos from the parade at sunherald.com

and businesses as the Rockachaws meandered toward their destination, just four days after SSC's resounding 35-16 victory over Lafayette County in the Class 4A state title game at Mississippi Veterans Memorial Stadium in Jackson.

Suffice it to say, the Rockachaws had a blast.

Coach Forrest Williams' SSC squad won 14 games against a single defeat and earned the first state football championship in school history.

"It's life's lessons that you learn in sports," an emotional Longo told the crowd. "It was great to see everybody



WILLIAM COLGIN/SUN HERALD

The St. Stanislaus Rockachaws ride high as they are cheered along during a parade Wednesday in honor of the 4A state champions.

come together in Jackson — the team, the Stanislaus Regiment (band), the cheerleaders, everyone. Thank you,

Coach Williams and the St. Stanislaus team, for bringing the state championship to South Mississippi.

"What a great time to be a Rockachaw."

PARADE TO 7A

www.sunherald.com

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2009

7A

PARADE FROM 1A

SSC junior center Chris Frigo, who snapped the ball to the Rocks' record-setting quarterback Dylan Favre was pleased with the enthusiasm and turnout of the crowd.

"It's pretty amazing. So many people in the community got behind us," Frigo said. "(Former SSC) coach (Casey) Wittmann came to Jackson to watch the game, and he was behind us. This is a lot of fun." Wittmann now coaches at Pass Christian, which is the hometown of several of the Rockachaws' players.

Williams shared the ride on his float with his coaching staff and his 2-year-old son, Walker Williams. No one had a problem getting stuck in traffic for a few minutes.

Children from the Holy Trinity Catholic School performed an original composition to the tune of "Jingle Bell Rock," saluting the Rockachaws' triumph in Jackson and setting the tone for the festive event.

"Our theme this year was Shock The World. I think when the season started, about 50, 60 people thought this could happen," Williams

said. "Most of them are right here in front of you. They had to be willing to pay the price. They believed we could get there."

Veteran SSC assistant coach Stan Dellenger, who has worked at Mercy Cross, St. Stanislaus and several Catholic schools in Louisiana, was reflective on what the moment meant to the Bay St. Louis school. Dellenger is the Rocks' special-teams coach in the fall and head track-and-field coach in the spring.

"The school has been here 156 years, with 94 years of football," Dellenger said. "I've



WILLIAM COLGIN/SUN HERALD

Forrest Williams, head football coach at St. Stanislaus, praises the hard work of his team.

been in coaching for 28 years, and it's my first time to the top of the mountain. It's a



WILLIAM COLGIN/SUN HERALD

The St. Stanislaus mascot, the Rockachaw, leads the parade to honor the school's football team in their win at the 4A state championship over Lafayette County.

SunHerald

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Sports

SECTION D

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2009

WWW.SUNHERALD.COM

Many holiday treats await Coast sports fans

Just a week ago, everyone was debating the merits on the St. Stanislaus-Lafayette County football game.

Now it's the postseason, and Coast fans will get to see some of those folks in that prolific, high-scoring offense play again. Or they may get to see them live for the first time.



Doug Barber
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In eight days — on Saturday, Dec. 19 — St. Stanislaus quarterback Dylan Favre and wide receiver Krisjon Wilkerson will play for the South squad in the annual Bernard Blackwell All-Star Football Classic in Milner Stadium in Gulfport.

But ... this isn't the summer. And isn't that game always played in Jackson?

Correct on the first count. And correct on the second point until this December. This will be the first time in the history of



TIM ISBELL/SUN HERALD

St. Stanislaus quarterback Dylan Favre will play in the Bernard Blackwell All-Star Football Classic on Dec. 19 at Gulfport's Milner Stadium.

the game that is has not been played in the greater Jackson area.

The game will be played at 12:30 p.m. on the 19th and tickets are available at the Gulfport High athletic

office, and will be available at the stadium the day of the game.

Favre threw for 5,589 yards and 63 touchdowns, and he leads the NATION in passing yards, total of-

fense and touchdown passes.

Wilkerson caught 109 passes for 2,114 yards and 25 touchdowns. He leads the NATION in receiving yards right now.

And on that busy Saturday, there are a lot of other excellent players on the field for the South and the North.

Stone High has contributed offensive lineman Steve Campbell and defensive lineman Trey Harris to the cause.

Two Harrison Central standouts — versatile quarterback/defensive back Aerion Williams and linebacker Brandon Keel — will be in action.

Favre will also have a chance to throw to Oak Grove wide receiver Robert Johnson and Picayune wideout Jonathan Moore.

Peyton Johnson of powerful Madison Central is one of the quarterbacks for the North.

It's one last chance to see these guys play before

BARBER TO 4D

BARBER FROM 1D

college. We're still wondering which colleges they will be playing for.

Certainly, it will be a frantic rush toward Christmas. And we're not just talking about shopping.

The Saints play host to Dallas that Saturday, the 19th, while St. Stanislaus holds its War on the Shore. Then, Southern Miss plays in the New Orleans Bowl the next

day, followed by three days of Southern Miss hoops in their Christmas Classic in the Bert Jenkins Gymnasium.

Then we have the Holiday Classic at Gulfport High on Dec. 28-30, the Jackie Laird Classic at Biloxi on Dec. 28-29, and other tournaments at Bay High and Picayune. And don't forget the annual Harrison Central Soccer Tournament.

Literally, this will be a cornucopia for sports fans over the next few weeks.

Sports

SECTION C

WWW.SUNHERALD.COM

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2009



TIM ISBELL/SUN HERALD

Dylan Favre earned 4A offensive player of the year honors for state champion St. Stanislaus.

Rockachaws earn MAC honors

Favre, Williams take two major awards

By JAMES JONES

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The Mississippi Association of Coaches announced its All-Star football team for all six classifications this week.



Williams

St. Stanislaus, which won its 4A state championship last weekend, earned the two biggest awards. Quarterback Dylan Favre was named Class 4A offensive player of the year. Rockachaws coach Forrest Williams was also chosen as 4A coach of the year.

Offensive tackle Chandler York and wide receiver Krisjon Wilk-

erson both made the first team for the Rockachaws (14-1).

"I was blessed with great athletes," St. Stanislaus coach Forrest Williams said. "The kids worked real hard. Not many people thought we could win a state championship, but we did."

Ocean Springs and Harrison Central each had three first-team performers in Class 6A. Linebackers Travis Dickson, Wade Wells and safety Sam Noblin represented the Greyhounds, who made the 6A South State Finals.

Harrison Central's All-state picks were linebacker Brandon Keel, defensive back Furious Bradley and offensive tackle Wes Rea.

Kicker Will Scott of George County and Pascagoula's Senquez

Golston were the Coast's other 6A All-State picks. Golston made the first team as a return specialist, but also made the second team as a defensive back.

Moss Point and Picayune dominated the 5A All-State team, with each producing three All-State selections.

Moss Point, the 5A South State runner-up, was led by tight end Darius Stallworth, defensive end Keith Barkley, and cornerback Telvis Henderson.

Running back Jamal Hall, guard Robbie Bender and defensive tackle Joel Davis led the Marion Tide.

Stone had two selections in linebacker Darius Calloway and safety Darion Arrington.

Reach us

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All-State teams

Here are the All-state performers selected by the Mississippi Association of Coaches:

Class 6A

First-Team Offense

OG: Wes Rea, 6-5, 295, Sr., Harrison Central
K: Will Scott, 5-10, 190, Sr., George County

Second-Team Offense

C: Preston Caldwell, 5-11, 245, Sr., Harrison Central

First-Team Defense

DE: Travis Dickson, 6-3, 240, Sr., Ocean Springs
ILB: Wade Wells, 6-3, 210, Sr., Ocean Springs
OLB: Brandon Keel, 6-1, 215, Harrison Central
FS: Sam Noblin, 6-3, 210, Sr., Ocean Springs
CB: Furious Bradley, 5-11, 175, Harrison Central

KR: Senquez Golson, 5-11, 180, Jr., Pascagoula

Second-Team Defense

ILB: Chris Bermond, 6-1, 225, Sr., Hancock
ILB: Jamie Dennis, 5-11, 210, Sr. Harrison Central
OLB: Dawson Wells, 6-0, 195, Jr., Ocean Springs
CB: Senquez Golson, 5-11, 180, Jr., Pascagoula

CLASS 5A

First-Team Offense

RB: Jamal Hall, 5-8, 173, Jr., Picayune
TE: Darius Stallworth, 6-3, 220, Jr., Moss Point

OG: Robbie Bender, 6-1, 245, Sr., Picayune

Second-Team Offense

QB: Anthony D'Angelo, 6-2, 215, Sr., Long Beach
RB: Byron James, 5-8, 150, Jr., Moss Point
TE: Malcolm Faciance, 6-4, 235, Jr., Picayune
OT: Michael Edwards, 6-3, 270, Sr., Moss

Point

K: Matt Greenough, 6-3, 174, Sr., East Central

First-Team Defense

DE: Keith Barkley, 6-1, 220, Sr., Moss Point
DT: Joel Davis, 5-11, 228, Jr., Picayune
OLB: Darius Calloway, 6-0, 210, Sr., Stone County
FS: Darion Arrington, 6-2, 200, Jr., Stone County
CB: Telvis Henderson, 5-11, 165, Sr., Moss Point

Second-Team Defense

DE: Dylan Holley, 6-3, 275, Sr., D'Iberville
OLB: Jerod Jones, 5-10, 178, Sr., Picayune
OLB: Dawaiian Hutchins, 5-11, 185, Sr., Moss Point
SS: Greyson Chambliss, 6-1, 180, Jr., D'Iberville
FS: Wayne McMooain, 5-10, 160, Sr., Picayune
CB: Jonathan Moore, 6-0, 170, Sr., Picayune
CB: Darryl Williams, 5-8, 165, Sr., Moss Point

CLASS 4A

First-Team Offense

WR: Krisjon Wilkerson, 6-2, 205, Sr., St. Stanislaus
OT: Chandler York, 6-3, 305, Sr., St. Stanislaus

SSC: 4A State Football champs!

Rocks bring home the title

The St. Stanislaus Rock-A-Chaws defeated Lafayette County 35-16 on Saturday, December 5, to claim their first 4A State Championship. The team, right, riding a float, was recognized by the City of Bay St. Louis at a parade, Dec. 9. Below, right, SSC principal Paul Verlander, left, and SSC president, Bro. Ron Hingle, walk through the streets of the city in front of a Rock-a-Chaw mascot balloon, tethered by SSC students. The Rocks finished their season with a 14-1 record. The Rocks were led by quarterback Dylan Favre who had 369 yards and three touchdowns passing and he added two rushing touchdowns. Senior wide receiver Krisjon Wilkerson had 152 yards on 12 receptions and two touchdowns.

Photos/Terry Dickson



And the bands played on...



SSC's Regiment, Jazz Band, and Choir Class conducted a Christmas Tour to spread Christmas cheer in the local area. The tour began at Holy Trinity Catholic School where the SSC Regiment and Jazz band performed traditional and non-traditional Christmas songs. They were joined by the SSC Choir class for their performances for the residents of Dunbar Village in Bay St. Louis and the students of St. Vincent de Paul Catholic School in Pass Christian. Above, the SSC Regiment performs for the St. Vincent de Paul student body; at right, the Jazz Band is in full swing at SVdP.



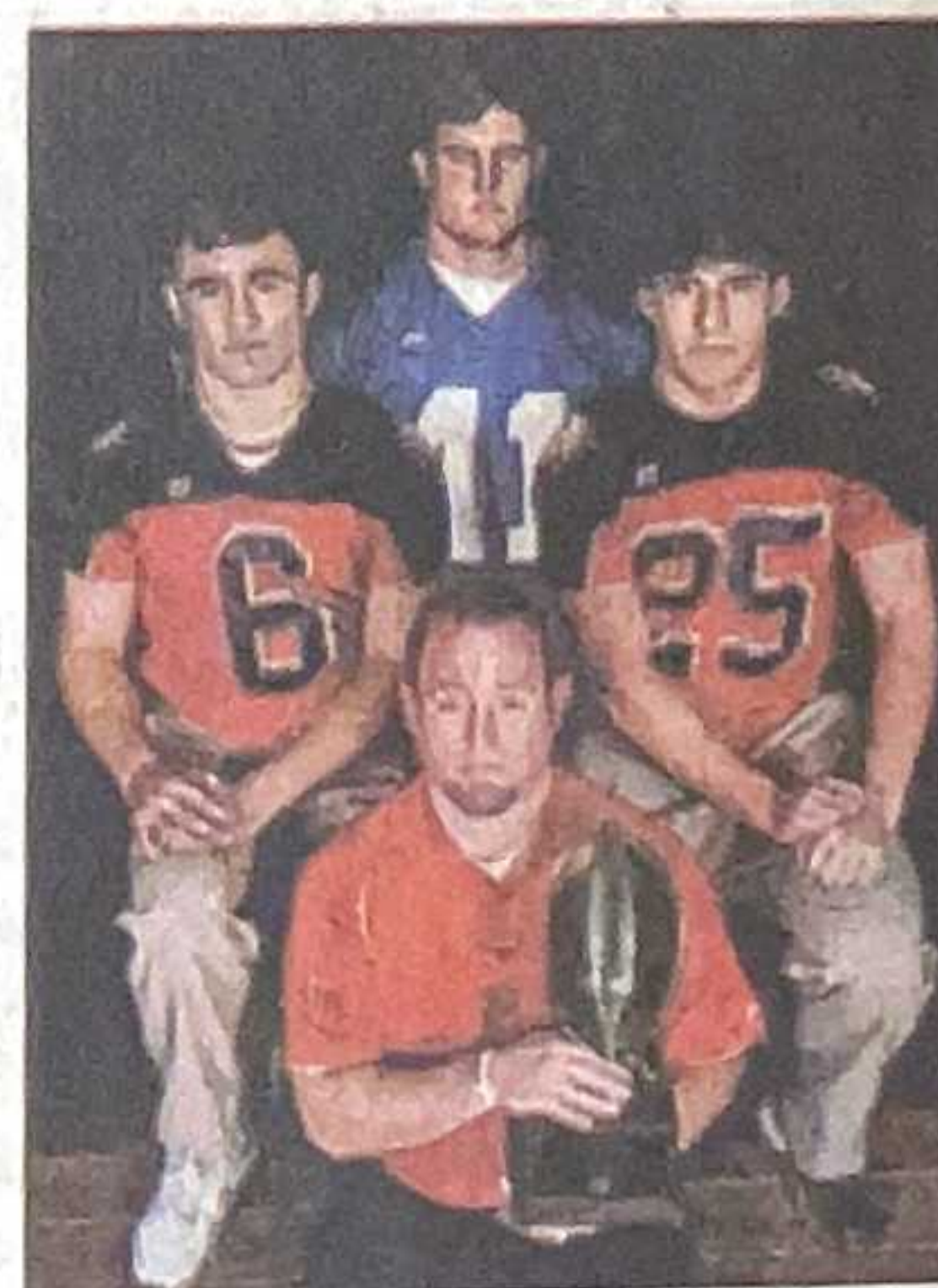


All-South Mississippi Football team named

The Sun Herald unveils its All-South Mississippi Football team in today's sports section. The Sun Herald sports staff selected the Coast's top 26 players.

Four individual honors are also awarded: coach of the year, The Sun Herald's Mr. Coast football, offensive player of the year and defensive player of the year.

For a complete look at the prestigious team, D-1, D-4.



JOHN FITZHUGH/SUN HERALD

Sun Herald All South-Mississippi Defensive Player of the Year, J.T. Dickson of Ocean Springs, center, Offensive Players of the Year Dylan Favre, left, and Krisjon Wilkerson and Coach of the year Forrest Williams, all of St. Stanislaus.



SUNDAY: THE BEST LOCAL SPORTS STORIES OF 2009

Sports

SECTION D

WWW.SUNHERALD.COM

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2009

Note

Due to early holiday deadlines, some late results are not in today's editions.

2009 SUN HERALD ALL-SOUTH MISSISSIPPI FOOTBALL TEAM



JOHN FITZHUGH/SUN HERALD

The Sun Herald All South-Mississippi Football Team (front row, from left) St. Stanislaus' Boomer Scarborough, Dylan Favre, coach Forrest Williams, Blake Morreale and Krisjon Wilkerson. (second row, from left) D'Iberville's Dylan Holley, St. Martin's Eugene Walton, Biloxi's Greg Marble, Hancock's Keagon Gillihan, George County's R. J. Spivey and Will Scott, St. Patrick's Dylan Herring and Long Beach's Dimitri Smith. (back row, from left) Ocean Springs' Sam Noblin, Wade Wells and Travis Dickson and Harrison Central's Aerion Williams, Wes Rea, Furious Bradley and Brandon Keel.

ROCKACHAWS RULE IN 2009

Two St. Stanislaus players, head coach take individual honors

By JAMES JONES
jjones@sunherald.com

St. Stanislaus capped the school's greatest football season by winning the Class 4A state championship earlier this month.

The Rockachaws' dominance reflects this season's Sun Herald football awards, as representatives from the school won three of four honors.

Quarterback Dylan Favre, who set 10 state passing records, was named The Sun Herald's Player of the Year.

Forrest Williams earned Coach of the Year honors, while record-setting wide receiver Krisjon Wilkerson captured top offensive honors.

Ocean Springs linebacker Travis Dickson prevented a Rockachaw sweep, edging Moss Point's Keith Barkley and Blake Morrealle of St. Stanislaus for the defensive Player of the Year award.

Winning the Rockachaws' first gold trophy in football meant more to Favre than the records he leaves behind, he said.

He threw for 5,589 yards and 63 touchdowns, ran for another 1,265 yards, and 18 touchdowns. His 81 total

Honorees

Here are the Sun Herald's Players of the Year since 2000:

- 2000: Damarius Bilbo, QB, Moss Point
- 2001: Torey Staten, RB, D'Iberville
- 2002: Carlton Cotton, RB, D'Iberville
- 2003: Justin Magee, RB, Picayune
- 2004: Andre Watson, RB, Ocean Springs
- 2005: Richard Dickson, TE, Ocean Springs
- 2006: Albert Richard, RB, Picayune
- 2007: Willie Packer, DL, Moss Point
- 2008: Kevin Norwood, WR, D'Iberville
- 2009: Dylan Favre, QB, St. Stanislaus.

all a credit to the coaching staff and the players. We were all on the same page.

"We were blessed with football players. They won't wow you with their 40 (-yard dash) times and vertical leaps, but played the game. Dylan was the best quarterback in the state. We had a productive team and showed that the South plays a different brand of football."

Wilkerson and Favre formed the Coast's top pass-and-catch combination for the past two seasons. Wilkerson is the only Coast player with consecutive 1,000-yard receiving seasons.

The senior set six state receiving records, including most receptions (109), yards (2,114) and touchdowns (25).

"I'm grateful to receive a individual award, but winning the state title meant more," Wilkerson said.

Dickson made history with his individual award. He and his older brother, Richard, are the only brother tandem to earn football honors by the Sun Herald. Dickson, a starting tight end at LSU, was named player of the year in 2005.

Travis Dickson, a two-time All-South Mississippi made 139 total tackles and 11 tackles for loss. He plans to sign with LSU in February.

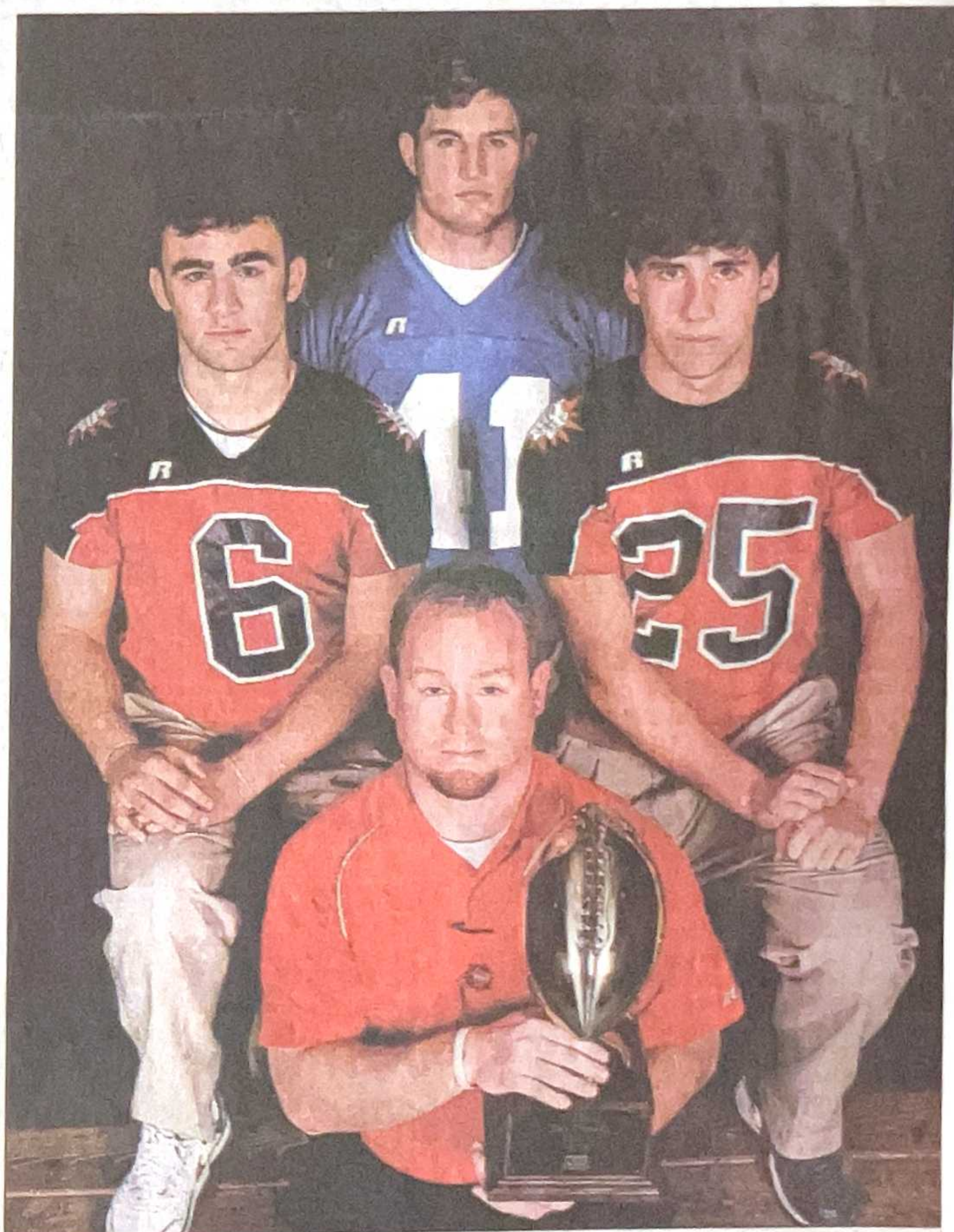
"Earning this award is a huge deal," Travis Dickson said.

touchdowns is a national record.

"The records are nice, but quarterbacks are judged by winning championships, not by how many yards they throw for and touchdown passes," Favre said. "I couldn't have scripted this season any better."

Williams edged out Ocean Springs' Todd Mangum, and Lewis Sims of Moss Point for the top coaching honor. The Rockachaws went 14-1. A 21-20 loss at Jackson Prep kept the Rockachaws from a perfect season.

"The award is a huge honor for me," Williams said. "It's



JOHN FITZHUGH/SUN HERALD

Sun Herald Defensive Player of the Year, Travis Dickson of Ocean Springs, center, stands between The Sun Herald's Mr. Coast football Dylan Favre, left, and Offensive Player of the Year Krisjon Wilkerson and Coach of the Year Forrest Williams, all of St. Stanislaus.

INSIDE | For a closer look at this year's Sun Herald All-South Mississippi football team, see 4D

2009 SUN HERALD ALL-SOUTH MISSISSIPPI FOOTBALL TEAM



Favre



James



Hall



Wilkerson



Spivery



Gillihan



Chambers



Smith



Thomas



Bradley



Scott



Rea



Williams



Holley



Scarborough



Dickson



Wells



Barkley



Morreale



Noblin



Henderson



Walton



Marble



Arrington

Player of the Year — Dylan Favre, St. Stanislaus

**Offensive Player of the Year — Krisjon Wilkerson
St. Stanislaus**



Herring



Williams

**Defensive Player of the Year — Travis Dickson
Ocean Springs**

Coach of the Year — Forrest Williams, St. Stanislaus

OFFENSE

Dylan Favre

School: St. Stanislaus
Position: Quarterback
Class: Senior
Height: 5-foot-11
Weight: 170 pounds
Stats: completed 342 of 529 passes for 5,589 Yards, 63 TD's. Had 157 rushing attempts for 1,265 yards, 18 TDs. Defense: 76 total tackles; 6 INT's. Special Teams: 16 punts, 661 yards, 41.31 average.
Accomplishments: Sun Herald's Player of the Year; MAC offensive player of the year; State's Gatorade player of the year. Owns 10 state passing records, accounted for a national-record 81 TDs in a season; finished as the sixth-leading passer all-time nationally. Two-time All-South Mississippi pick; offensive player of the year in 2008; 4A state titlist.

Byron James

School: Moss Point
Position: Running back
Class: Junior
Height: 5-foot-10
Weight: 180 pounds
Stats: 1,371 yards rushing, 16 TDs, 22 receptions for 348 yards, 2 TDs.
Accolades: All Region 4-5A; Region 4-5A MVP.

Jamal Hall

School: Picayune
Position: running back
Class: Junior
Height: 5-foot-8
Weight: 180 pounds
Stats: 274 carries for 1,850 yards rushing and 18 touchdowns; five receptions for 121 yards
Accolades: led the Coast in rushing; All Region 3-5A.

Krisjon Wilkerson

School: St. Stanislaus
Position: Wide receiver
Class: Senior
Height: 6-foot-2
Weight: 190 pounds
Stats: 109 receptions for 2,114 yards and 25 TDs.
Accolades: Sun Herald's Offensive player of the year; owns six state receiving record, which includes most TD receptions in a season; two-time All-South Mississippi selection; All Region 8-4A, first Coast receiver with consecutive 1,000-yard receiving seasons.

R.J. Spivory

School: George County

Position: Wide receiver

Class: Senior

Height: 6-foot-1

Weight: 180 pounds

Stats: 123 carries for 941 yards, 9 touchdowns, 20 of 47 for 275 yards, TD; 11 receptions for 208 yards, three TDs.

Accolades: Southern Miss verbal commitment; Mississippi-Alabama All-Star participant; All Region 4-6A.

Keagon Gillihan

School: Hancock
Position: Quarterback
Class: Senior
Height: 6-foot-1
Weight: 180 pounds
Stats: Completed 111 of 226 passes for 1,364 yards and 10 touchdowns; rushed 171 times for 1,285 yards and 12 touchdowns.
Accolades: All Region 4-6A selection, a rare 1,200 yard passer, 1,200 yard rusher.

Shadale Chambers

School: Gulfport
Position: Running back
Class: Senior
Height: 5-foot-10
Weight: 170 pounds
Stats: 135 carries for 1,035 yards and 11 TDs.
Accolades: All Region 4-6A

Dimtry Smith

School: Long Beach
Position: Wide receiver
Class: Junior
Height: 5-foot-8
Weight: 160 pounds
Stats: 48 receptions for 882 yards
Accolades: All Region 4-5A selection

Travonta Thomas

School: Gautier
Position: Quarterback
Class: Senior
Height: 6-foot
Weight: 180 pounds
Stats: Completed 58 of 101 passes for 1,008 yards, 7 TDs; 74 carries for 317 yards 4 TDs.
Accolades: All Region 4-5A

Furlous Bradley

School: Harrison Central
Position: running back/cornerback
Class: Senior
Height: 5-foot-8
Weight: 170 pounds
Stats: two interceptions; 907 yards rushing, 12 TDs.
Accolades: MAC All-state; All Region 4-6A; Mississippi-Alabama All-Star participant; Southern Miss verbal commitment.

Honorable Mention

Bay High: Rahien Lyons, RB.

Biloxi: Kenny Powell, LB; Tavoris Robinson, RB.

D'Iberville: WR Grayson Chambliss

East Central: K Matt Greenough.

Gautier: LB Chuck Wilson, OL Daniel Quave.

George County: RB Adrian Bradley, Ricco Carter, LB

Gulfport: QB Derrick Lattimore, BJ Tenner, TE; Jacob Troutman, OL; Cortez Hartzog, DL; John Cooley, LB; Lamar Smith, CB.

Hancock: Chris Bermond, LB; Adrian Whavers, RB.

Harrison Central: Maurice Reese, WR; Nick Redmond, OL; Jamie Dennis, LB; James Booth, RB; Preston Caldwell, OL.

Long Beach: Anthony D'Angelo, QB; Richie Brown, LB.

Moss Point: WR Darius Stallworth, WR DeAdrian Terry, Michael Edwards, OL; Darryl Williams, CB; Dawailan Hutchins, DB; Cadarius Coleman, DL.

Ocean Springs: Joe Morrow, WR; Allen Howze, FB; Glenn Ferrell, OL; Jacob Souers, DL; Chris Carter, OL; Dawson Wells, LB; Hunter Steiner, LB; Dwayne Cherry, RB.

Pascagoula: Senquez Golston, WR, Donovan Gordon, TE.

Picayune: Jacob Kennedy, QB; Robbie Bender, OL; Malcolm Faciance, TE; Jerod Jones, LB; Wayne McMooain, DB; Jonathan Moore, DB.

Stone: Clint Hatten, QB; Darious Calloway, LB.

St. Patrick: Callum Steff, OL; Aaron Sharkland, OL; Ben Whiteside, WR/DB.

St. Stanislaus: Chandlor York, OL, Kollin Cannon, WR.

Vancleave: Logan Wall, DL; Colin Bray, P; Dawson Chapman, DB

Will Scott

School: George County
Position: kicker
Class: Senior
Height: 5-foot-10
Weight: 190 pounds.
Stats: 7 of 10 field goals; 21 extra points; averaged 40 yards a punt.
Accolades: MAC All-State; All Region 4-6A; Mississippi-Alabama All-star Game MVP

Wes Rea

School: Harrison Central
Position: tackle
Class: Senior
Height: 6-foot-5
Weight: 290 pounds
Stats: Coast's offensive lineman
Accolades: MAC All-State; All Region 4-6A; Mississippi-Alabama All-star participant; Two-time All-South Mississippi pick; Mississippi State baseball signee; All-South Mississippi baseball pick.

Aerion Williams

School: Harrison Central
Position: quarterback
Class: Senior
Height: 6-foot-3
Weight: 220 pounds
Stats: Rushed 182 times for 1,415 yards and 12 TDs; completed 62 of 118

yards for 852 yards.

Accolades: All Region 4-6A; Region 4-6A offensive MVP.

DEFENSE

Dylan Holley

School: D'Iberville
Position: offensive/defensive tackle
Class: Senior
Height: 6-foot-5
Weight: 280 pounds
Stats: 80 tackles; 20 tackles for loss; graded out 86 percent on offensive line.

Accolades: MAC All-State; All Region 4-5A; Three-time All-South Mississippi pick.

Boomer Scarborough

School: St. Stanislaus
Position: Linebacker
Class: Senior
Height: 6-foot-2
Weight: 245 pounds
Stats: 73 receptions for 1,216 yards and 11 TDs; 125 total tackles, 27 tackles for loss.
Accolades: MAC All-State; All Region 4-5A; Two-time All-South Mississippi pick; Southern Miss baseball signee; All-South Mississippi baseball pick.

Brandon Keel

School: Harrison Central
Position: linebacker
Class: Senior

Height: 6-foot-2

Weight: 210 pounds

Stats: 105 total tackles.

Accolades: MAC All-state; All Region 4-6A.

Travis Dickson

School: Ocean Springs
Position: Linebacker
Class: Senior
Height: 6-foot-3
Weight: 250 pounds
Stats: 139 total tackles, 11 tackles for loss; 2 forced fumbles, 2 recovered fumbles.
Accolades: Sun Herald's defensive player of the year; Mississippi-Alabama All-Star participant; Two-time All-South Mississippi pick; LSU verbal commitment; MAC All-state; All Region 4-6A; Coast's top-rated football recruit.

Wade Wells

School: Ocean Springs
Position: linebacker
Class: Senior
Height: 6-foot-1
Weight: 190 pounds
Stats: 159 total tackles (98 solo), 17 tackles for loss; interceptions, five fumbles forced, three fumble recoveries.
Accolades: All Region 4-6A; MAC All-State; Region 4-6A defensive MVP.

Keith Barkley

School: Moss Point
Position: Linebacker
Class: Senior
Height: 6-foot-2
Weight: 240 pounds
Stats: 105 total tackles, 10 quarterback sacks.
Accolades: MAC All-state; All Region 4-5A; Region 4-5A Defensive MVP.

Blake Morealle

School: St. Stanislaus
Class: Senior
Position: Linebacker
Height: 5-foot-11
Weight: 190 pounds
Stats: 188 total tackles
Accolades: 4A state champion; All Region 8-4A.

Sam Noblin

School: Ocean Springs
Position: safety/quarterback
Class: Senior
Height: 6-foot-3
Weight: 200 pounds
Stats: completed 77 of 157 passes for 1,199 13 TDs; 127 carries for 417 yards, 10 TDs; 81 total tackles, interceptions, five tackles for loss.
Accolades: All-MAC

team; All Region 4-6A; Mississippi-Alabama All-Star participant.

Telvis Henderson

School: Moss Point
Position: cornerback
Class: Senior
Height: 5-foot-11
Weight: 170 pounds
Stats: 5 interceptions (three returned for touchdowns); 41 total tackles.
Accolades: All Region 4-5A; MAC All-State, averages 20 points a game in basketball team.

Eugene Walton

School: St. Martin
Position: quarterback
Class: Senior
Height: 6-foot
Weight: 180 pounds
Stats: 1,314 yards rushing, 60 yards passing, TD 20 total TDs.
Accolades: All Region 4-5A, average 15 points a game in basketball

Greg Marble

School: Biloxi
Position: punter
Class: Senior
Height: 5-foot-10
Weight: 170 pounds
Stats: Averaged 46 yards a punt
Accolades: All Region 4-6A

Darion Arrington

School: Stone
Position: defensive back/running back
Class: Senior
Height: 5-foot-10
Weight: 180 pounds
Stats: 125 carries for 933 yards, 10 TDs; 21 receptions for 337 yards, 3 TDs; 62 total tackles, four interceptions.
Accolades: All Region 3-5A; MAC All-state; two-time All-South Mississippi pick.

Dylan Herring

School: St. Patrick
Position: defensive back/wide receiver
Class: Senior
Height: 5-foot-8
Weight: 170 pounds.
Stats: 470 yards rushing, seven TDs; 160 yards receiving, 2 TDs, TD pass.
Accolades: All Region 8-3A.

Forrest Williams

School: St. Stanislaus
Honor: Coach of the Year
Accolades: Led the Rockachaws to a 14-1 record and the Class 4A state championship.



SUNDAY: THE BEST LOCAL SPORTS STORIES OF 2009

Sports

SECTION C

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2009

2009 SUN HERALD ALL-SOUTH MISSISSIPPI PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

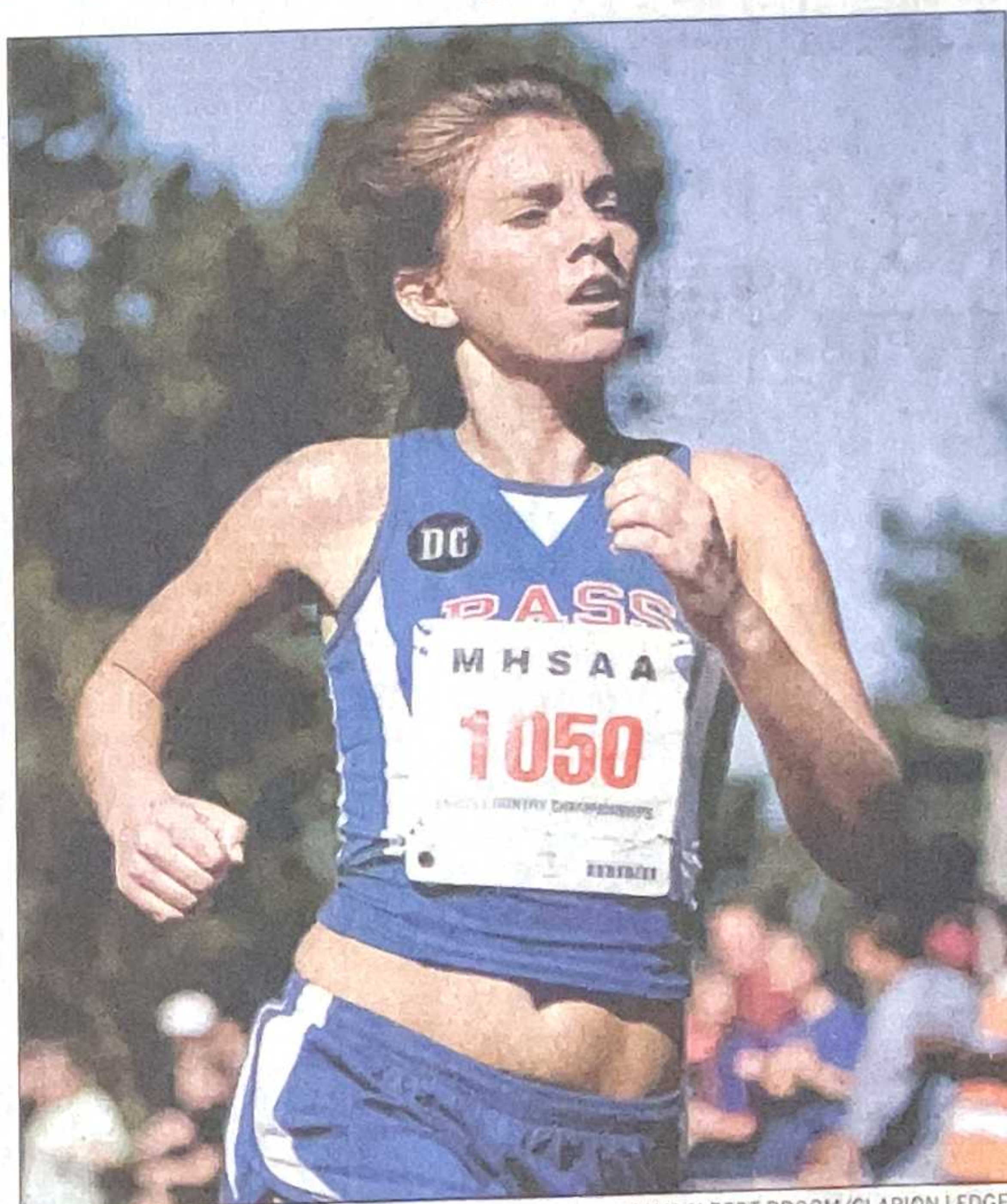
FAVRE, MCGEE LEAD THE WAY

St. Stanislaus quarterback, Pass Christian runner are tops on the Coast



TIM ISBELL/SUN HERALD

St. Stanislaus quarterback Dylan Favre capped a stellar high school career by leading the Rockachaws to the Class 4A state championship.



BRIAN ALBERT BROOM/CLARION LEDGER

Pass Christian runner Cory McGee has had a stellar career in both track and cross country.

By DOUG BARBER

dmbarber@sunherald.com

The year 2009 has proven to be one of champions for South Mississippi high schools and a

record-setting season for South Mississippi athletes.

Today the Sun Herald honors its South Mississippi Players of the Year in 19 sports. The Sun Herald sports staff also chose two athletes as the overall Coast players of the year.

The Sun Herald's South Mississippi Boys Player of the

Year is St. Stanislaus quarterback Dylan Favre, who directed a prolific offensive attack for the Class 4A state champion Rockachaws.

He threw for 5,589 yards and 63 touchdowns. He rushed for 1,265 yards and 18 touchdowns.

His 81 total touchdowns is a national single-season record. He led the nation in 2009 in touchdown passes,

passing yards and touchdown responsibility.

The Sun Herald's South Mississippi Girls Player of the Year is Pass Christian's Cory McGee, who has been dominant in two sports: girls track and cross country.

She won the Class 4A state individual championship in cross country, her fifth straight state championship in that sport.

In the spring, the long-distance runner swept three individual championships while helping Pass Christian win its first team state championship in Class 3A.

She won the 3,200-, the 1,600-, and the 800-meter runs at the 2009 State Track Meet in Pearl.

She has won 14 track championships in her career.

Reach us

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PREP FOOTBALL

Red Rebels, 'Hounds lead 4-6A selections

By JAMES JONES

jkjones@sunherald.com

Harrison Central and Ocean Springs headline the Region 4-6A football team.

The Greyhounds and Red Rebels, the region's top two teams, combined for 15 first-team selections.

Ocean Springs leads the way with Spivery

eight players. Linebackers Travis Dickson and Wade Wells, wide receiver Joe Morrow, guard Glenn Ferrell, tackle Chris Carter, fullback Allen Howze, defensive linemen Jacob Souers and safety Sam Noblin.

The Red Rebels had seven picks. Quarterback Aeron Williams, wide receiver Maurice Reese, tackle Wes Rea, center Wells

Preston Caldwell, linebackers Brandon Keel Jamie Dennis and cornerback Furious Bradley.

George County had four selections. Wide receiver R.J. Spivery, running back Adrian Bradley, kicker Will Scott and linebacker Ricco Carter.

"Will's a guy who can do all



INSIDE | For a look at the top athletes in each sport along the Coast, see page 5C

2009 SUN HERALD ALL-SOUTH MISSISSIPPI PLAYERS OF THE YEAR



Favre



Bales



Canaan



Nie. Pierce



Nit. Pierce



Troub



Roberts



Dunning



Dickerson



Graeter



Hewes



Atherton



Aranda



Edwards



Alex and Andre Wawryszczuk



Wilburn and St. Amant



McGee



Gonzalez



Schmitt

These are the 2009 Sun Herald's Players of the Year in their individual sports. They were chosen by the Sun Herald sports staff.

FOOTBALL

Dylan Favre, St. Stanislaus The quarterback led SSC to the Class 4A state championship with a 14-1 record. He threw for 5,589 yards and 63 touchdowns and rushed for 1,265 yards and 18 touchdowns in 2009.

BASEBALL

Jared Bales, Picayune The catcher hit .519 with 7 home runs and 38 RBIs in 2009 as the Maroon Tide reached the 4A South State finals.

BOYS BASKETBALL

Isaiah Canaan, Biloxi The guard averaged 21.0 points, 7.2 assists and 5.0 steals in leading Biloxi to the Class 5A state championship. He signed

with Murray State. He was the MVP of the Alabama-Mississippi All-Star game.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Nitesha and Niesha Pierce, Harrison Central The twin sisters led the Red Rebelettes to the South State 5A championship. They signed with Southern Miss. Nitesha averaged 15.0 points, 7.0 rebounds and 4.0 assists. Niesha averaged 16.0 points, 5.0 rebounds and 5.0 assists.

GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

Cory McGee, Pass Christian She won the Class 4A state individual championship with a time of 14:45.9. That was her fifth straight state championship in cross country, winning Class 3A in 2008 and 2007, and Class 4A in 2006 and 2005.

BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

Brandon Troub, Long Beach He finished second in the Class 5A state meet with

a time of 17:25.2 and also won the Division 8-5A title.

GIRLS GOLF

Meghan Roberts, Ocean Springs She won the individual Class 2A girls championship by shooting 68-67-135. She was 14 strokes ahead of the runner-up. She signed with the University of Arkansas.

BOYS GOLF

Leland Dunning, St. Patrick He shot 77-76-153 in leading St. Patrick to the Class 2A boys state championship. He was the bronze medalist at the state tournament. He signed with the University of Mobile.

FAST-PITCH SOFTBALL

Linsey Dickerson, East Central The pitcher went 24-3 with 278 strikeouts in 2009. Career-wise, she was 94-11 with 1,021 strikeouts.

SLOW-PITCH SOFTBALL

Alyssa Graeter, Poplarville The pitcher went 27-1, hit .679 with 24 doubles, three triples, three homers, 42 RBIs and scored 53 runs as the Lady Hornets won the 4A state title.

BOYS SOCCER

Henderson Hewes, St. Stanislaus He scored 40 goals and dished out 10 assists in leading the Rockchaws into the 4A state title game.

GIRLS SOCCER

Molly Atherton, Gulfport She had 20 goals and four assists as a junior. She played in Portugal in the Algarve Cup with the Region III ODP team.

GIRLS SWIMMING

Gabby Aranda, Biloxi She won the 200-meter individual medley at the State Swim Meet in a time of 2:11.05. She won the 100-meter butterfly at

the State Meet in 57.96 seconds.

BOYS SWIMMING

Kelly Edwards, St. Patrick He won the 100-meter butterfly in 52.55 seconds at the State Swim Meet. He finished second in the 100 freestyle.

BOYS TENNIS

Andre and Alex Wawryszczuk, Ocean Springs The tandem won the Class 5A No. 2 boys doubles championship. They upset Gulfport 6-3, 6-7, 6-2 in the state semifinals and beat Murrah 6-3, 6-1 in the state finals.

GIRLS TENNIS

Madeline Wilburn and Sadey St. Amant, Ocean Springs The tandem won the Class 5A No. 1 girls doubles championship. They beat Clinton 1-6, 7-5, 7-5 in the state finals.

GIRLS TRACK

Cory McGee, Pass Christian She swept 3 individual titles while helping Pass win the Class 3A state team championship. She won the 3,200-meter run in 10:58.53, the 1,600-meter run in 5:06.17, and the 800-meter run in 2:13.61.

BOYS TRACK

Tino Gonzalez, Ocean Springs He won the 3,200-meter run at the South State 5A meet in Hattiesburg in 10:03.40 and the 1,600-meter run at South State in 4:36.59. Those times were personal bests.

VOLLEYBALL

Kirsty Schmitt, Our Lady Academy She recorded 515 kills, 188 points and 56 aces during the 2009 season. She helped OLA (28-8) win the Class I state championship and the Division 8 title.

SPORT CHECK

Favre named All-South QB

STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

St. Stanislaus quarterback Dylan Favre landed another honor this week. He was named to the Orlando Sentinel's All-South football team.

The publication recognizes top players from Florida, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas, Arkansas and Tennessee.

Favre earned the Sun Herald's Player of the Year award, as well as the state's top honor this season.

The senior threw for 5,589 yards, 63 touchdowns, which are among his 10 state passing records. His 81 total touchdowns are a national record.

Ocean Springs linebacker Travis Dickson, the Sun Herald's defensive Player of the Year, was named honorable mention.

Representing Mississippi on the Sentinel's 91st annual team were Oak Grove receiver Steve McNair Jr., South Panola running back Nicholas Parker and defensive lineman Devin Clark along with West Point wide receiver Michael Carr.

IN THE BLEACHERS



"Look at this mess! Egg everywhere! You're benched, Collins. I have no use for a quarterback who can't scramble."

SPORT CHECK

Favre plays in all-star game

STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

St. Stanislaus quarterback Dylan Favre will get the start in the Offense-Defense High School All-America football game today at 5 p.m. in Myrtle Beach, S.C.

Favre earned MVP honors at the Bernard Blackwell All-Star contest last month at Milner Stadium.

Another strong showing will give Favre an opportunity to show he's worthy of a Division I scholarship. Southern Miss is his only Division I offer so far, but Mississippi State, Oklahoma State, Wisconsin, Iowa, Memphis, Florida International and Tulane are all interested.

The 5-foot-11 Favre threw for 5,589 yards and 63 touchdowns as the Rockachaws (14-1) won the 4A state title. He earned Sun Herald South Mississippi player of the year honors.



REBELS LASSO OSU

Dexter McCluster,
defense lead Ole Miss
to second straight
Cotton Bowl victory, **1B**

Dylan Favre commits to Mississippi State, **2B**

Try
the new
tastes
in town,
RESTAURANT OPENINGS, **7B**



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SAVE \$1.00
SAVE \$3.00
Save 30%
CAUTION

relish
LIGHTEN UP!
LOWER-CALORIE
CLASSICS

INSIDE

SunHerald

SOUTH MISSISSIPPI'S NEWSPAPER

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SUNDAY, JANUARY 3, 2010

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2B SUNDAY, JANUARY 3, 2010

SPORT CHECK

Favre chooses Miss. State

STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

St. Stanislaus quarterback Dylan Favre has verbally committed to play at Mississippi State on Saturday.

Mississippi State, Tulane and Southern Miss were the other Division I schools that offered scholarships to Favre, who led the Rockachaws to the Class 4A state championship.

Favre, who played in the Offense/Defense All-American Bowl in Myrtle Beach, S.C. on Saturday, holds 10 state prep passing records.

The 5-foot-10 Favre threw for 5,589 yards, 63 touchdowns, rushing for over 1,100 and 18 more scores.

Favre was named player of the year by the Sun Herald, Gatorade and the state's Mr. Football. He also earned MVP honors at the Bernard Blackwell Classic.

For more information on Favre's big announcement, read Monday's edition.

SunHerald

SOUTH MISSISSIPPI'S NEWSPAPER

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MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 2010

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Playoff picture comes into focus

By BARRY WILNER

The Associated Press

Dallas won a division title, Baltimore earned a wild-card spot, the Super Bowl champs headed home, and the NFL's last playoff berth went down to the final game.

Next week's first round will include three rematches of games Sunday, but not the defending champion Pittsburgh Steelers.

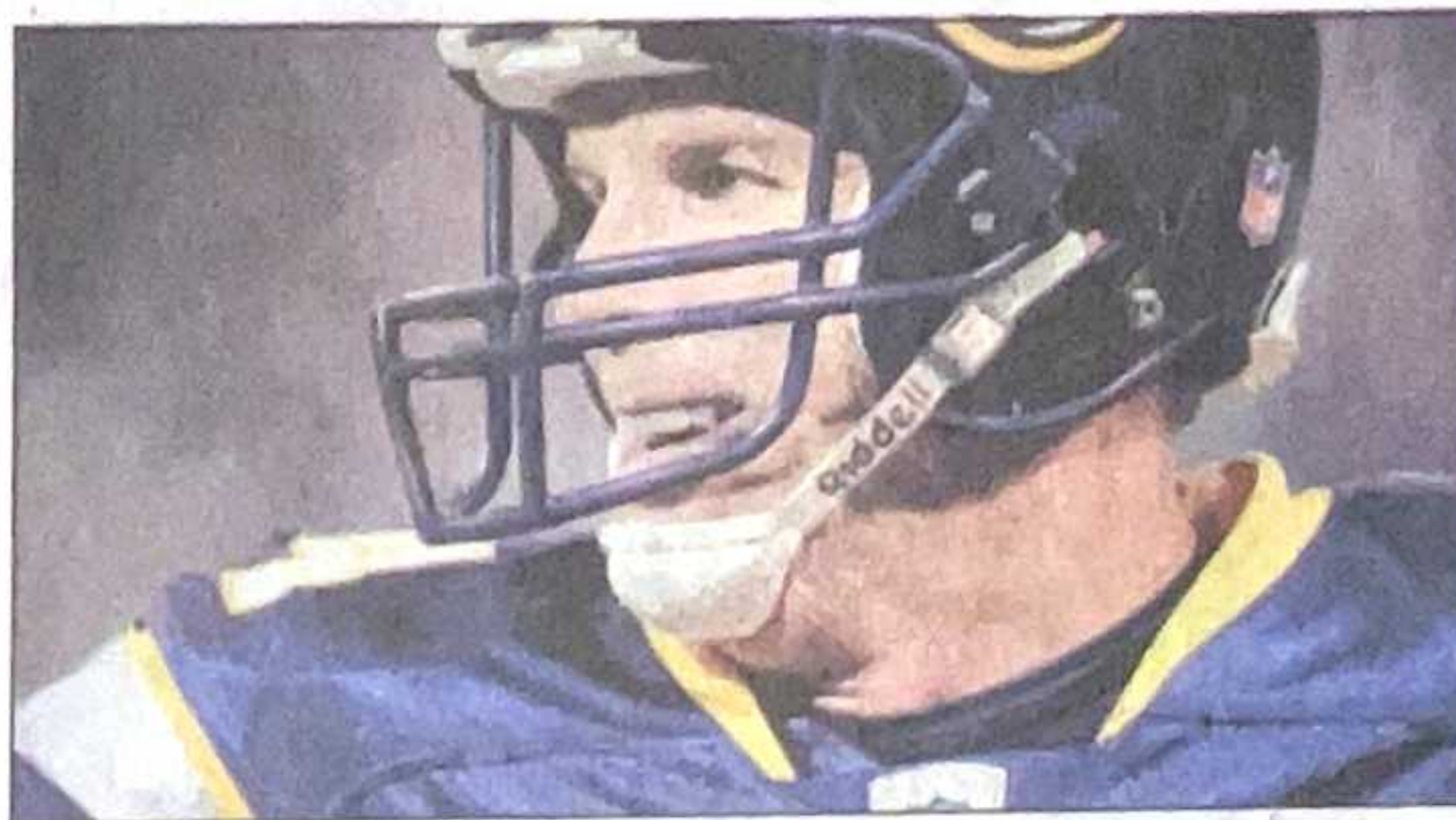
While Tony Romo and the Cowboys romped over Philadelphia 24-0 in an afternoon game to help set

the NFC matchups, the AFC pairings weren't settled until late Sunday night.

The Ravens (9-7) grabbed one AFC wild-card spot when they beat Oakland 21-13. In the night game the Jets mauled the Bengals 37-0 to grab the final wild-card spot, but will face the Bengals again next week.

For the second straight year the Eagles-Cowboys showdown was a rout. This time Dallas did the damage. They meet again next weekend in the wild-card round.

Kurt Warner and the Car-



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Brett Favre and the Vikings are the second seed in NFC.

dinals will host the Packers Sunday after Green Bay (11-5) beat them 33-7 Arizona (10-6) will be No. 4 this time.

Minnesota's 44-7 blitz of the New York Giants gave Brett Favre and the Vikings (12-4) a first-round bye. New

INSIDE | More on the final week of the regular season, **1B, 4B**

Orleans (13-3) is the NFC's No. 1 seed, but lost its final three games.

"I think it's proof of what we're capable of doing," said Favre, who completed 25 of 31 passes for 316 yards and four touchdowns.

Indianapolis, which dropped its last two games, is the AFC's top seed at 14-2. San Diego (13-3) also has a bye and won its final 11 games.

INSIDE

TOP STORY, 1B



SAINTS SUBS FUMBLE GAME

While many starters watched, the Saints fumbled away the game to the Panthers.

LOCAL, 8A



THE KINDNESS OF STRANGERS

A New York man's walk across the country has taught him hospitality is everywhere.

SPORTS, 1B



OFF TO BULLDOG COUNTRY

SSC's Dylan Favre, Rockachaws quarterback, explains why he chose Mississippi State.

Favre explains his selection of Miss. State

By AL JONES

afjones@sunherald.com

One day after committing to Mississippi State, record-setting quarterback Dylan Favre talked about his decision.

Favre, who led St. Stanislaus to the 4A state championship, chose the Bulldogs following Saturday's Offense-Defense All Star Game in Myrtle Beach, S.C.



Favre

That's when Mississippi State coach Dan Mullen extended a scholarship offer to Favre by phone.

It also came a few days after another quarterback the Bulldogs were targeting, Cam Newton, verbally committed to Auburn.

The commitment might shock some considering his uncle, Brett, and his father, Jeff, both played at Southern Miss. The night before the Rocks beat Lafayette

County for the state title, Southern Miss coach Larry Fedora offered Favre a scholarship.

But it was the thought of playing in the SEC that turned Favre's head toward Starkville.

"Playing in the best conference in football had a lot to do with it," Favre said. "Plus, I like coach Mullen a lot. He told me he expects me to go up there and win a SEC championship. He has already won a (national) championship at Florida with a good quarterback (Tim Tebow).

"As far as I know it (the quarterback job) is open until I am told otherwise. I will go in there and compete and see what happens."

Since winning the state championship, Memphis and Marshall had become interested in Dylan while other programs across the nation asked to see game film.

Favre will make his official visit to Mississippi State on Jan. 22 and Mul-

FAVRE FROM 1B

len will visit St. Stanislaus on Wednesday..

"My dad wanted me to wait it out," Favre said. "Then coach (Mullen) called him before he called me. I guess my dad heard what he wanted because he told me to do what I wanted.

"It (recruiting) was just starting to heat up. I know Memphis wanted to come down this week and Marshall wanted me to come visit. I spoke with the Southern Miss coaches once or twice after the offer."

Jeff Favre, a defensive back

at Southern Miss from 1992-96, said his conversation with Mullen helped seal the deal.

"Dylan and I had a conversation a few days ago when he asked me if he should commit (if offered)," Jeff Favre said. "At that time, I said no. We actually argued about it.

"Now I am convinced Mississippi State is the best place for him. Coach Mullen called and said 'we are going after Dylan' and said 'I want him to be my quarterback and I want him to help us win a championship.'

"When he told me that, it was a done deal."

FAVRE TO 3B

SunHerald

SOUTH MISSISSIPPI'S NEWSPAPER

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 2010

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No rings for Rocks

St. Stanislaus policy opposes material rewards



WILLIAM COLGIN/SUN HERALD

The St. Stanislaus Rockachaws pose for pictures during a parade and ceremony to honor their victory in the Class 4A state championship game last month in Jackson.

By JAMES JONES
and JIM MASHEK
Sun Herald

Members of the St. Stanislaus Class 4A state championship Rockachaws football team would love to have championship rings to commemorate the experience, but school policy forbids it.

St. Stanislaus principal Paul Verlander sent a letter to Rockachaws' coaches, players and parents recently stating that commemorative rings to celebrate accomplishments, including state championships, are not in line with school policy.

The Rockachaws (14-1) won their first state championship in football, trouncing Lafayette County 35-16 in the 4A state title game on Dec. 6 in Jackson.

"The reasoning behind this policy is that our sports, like all of our programs, academic and extracurricular, exist for the purpose of formation of our boys' character and development of their gifts," Verlander said. "It's not for the purpose of records, or championships, or particularly material reward. A championship ring is no mere token; these items are expensive, regardless of



TIM ISBELL/SUN HERALD

St. Stanislaus players and coaches touch their state championship trophy after defeating Lafayette 35-16 on Dec. 6 in Jackson.

Inside

Read excerpts from the SSC parent-student handbook, **5A**

who is paying."

Jeff Favre, father of Rockachaws' record-setting quarterback Dylan Favre, disagrees with the school's policy.

"I believe these kids deserve rings — that's custom-

ary and traditional," he said. "It's a common practice when you win state championships. What these kids achieved ... they deserve rings."

Several other parents are upset at the decision, but declined to comment on the issue.

Verlander is quick to point out that members of other state championship teams won by SSC teams, in sports such

as soccer and powerlifting, have not received commemorative rings for their feats. SSC has also won statewide competition in robotics, an academic pursuit.

"High-profile sports like football already run the risk of causing a loss of perspective in us adults and in our students," Verlander said.

RINGS TO 5A

From the St. Stanislaus Parent-Student Handbook

The St. Stanislaus name, logo, and all Rock-A-Chaw likenesses are copyrighted brands of St. Stanislaus College. They are only to be used on school uniforms, outerwear, paraphernalia, signs, or other SSC items officially sanctioned by St. Stanislaus. No one is allowed to use the St. Stanislaus name, logo, or any Rock-A-Chaw likenesses for their own purposes or for resale, for jewelry, glassware, silk screening, embroidering, apparel, advertising, or any other artistic or commercial medium, without the express written permission of the Administration of St. Stanislaus College. Any one who violates these copyrights or trademarks is subject to all remedies available under applicable civil and criminal laws.

Similarly, the distribution or display of emblems, insignia, buttons, signs, stickers, shirts, bracelets, necklaces, jewelry, posters, placards, and the like is not permitted on campus or at school-related functions without the permission of the assistant principal. Generally, in order to maintain decorum and an ordered and respectful school environment, students may not make any public displays, verbal or otherwise, on campus or at school-related functions without the permission of the assistant principal.

Jewelry

St. Stanislaus students may not wear earrings, any jewelry requiring piercing of any part of the body, or any facial jewelry on campus or at any school-related function. Nor are any items used to maintain a piercing allowed on campus or during any school function. One necklace may be worn inside a student's shirt. Pocket chains, regardless of purpose, are not allowed on campus or during any school function.

Dress and Grooming Code Compliance

In short, any clothing, jewelry, or grooming that, in the opinion of the assistant principal, would draw undue attention to a student or cause

disruption in the school day or a school-related function is considered unacceptable.

Student Recognition

St. Stanislaus is proud to recognize student achievement in academics as well as in extracurricular organizations and on athletic teams with certificates, letters, letter jackets, and plaques according to criteria designated by the school, organization, or team. These awards are presented at special awards convocations held throughout the year. A student shall forfeit his award(s) if he is absent from the awards convocation unless such absence is approved in advance by the coach, moderator, or the assistant principal for supervision and activities, or if the absence is due to an emergency, subject to administrative approval.

St. Stanislaus Senior Rings

St. Stanislaus, through its president and principal, is proud to present its official senior ring to members of the senior class at a ring ceremony held by the school. All senior rings must be purchased by the student or his family through the school, or be handed down to the student from another SSC alumnus. Only students who are currently enrolled in SSC for their senior year are eligible to receive such SSC rings, considered an important piece of St. Stanislaus insignia. Should a student withdraw from or be asked to leave SSC after he places his senior ring order but before the senior ring ceremony, he/his family may receive a refund from the ring company only, less any nonrefundable amount, according to the policies of the ring company. The former SSC student will not be allowed to have the SSC senior ring. SSC seniors, other students, or any other persons, are not allowed to have rings or other SSC jewelry produced for themselves. Only the official SSC senior ring will be distributed and allowed to be worn by St. Stanislaus seniors.

RINGS FROM 1A

"(They could bring) a failure to 'keep our eye on the ball.'"

Verlander said he hopes the ring controversy will eventually fade away and that the focus remains on the 4A state championship

itself.

"I hope that, together, we can avoid tarnishing our success and joy with ill feeling and strain," Verlander said. "That would be a great shame and would turn a much-needed 'high' for our school and community into a negative aftertaste."

"Even if you personally disagree with the school's philosophy about rings, I ask you to put aside differences so that we can support each other and focus on the tremendous positives of this historic event."

Al Jones, staff sports writer, contributed to this report.

Sports

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SECTION B

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2010

SPORTS, 4B

FAVRE JOINS PARADE TEAM

SSC's Dylan Favre is
named to prestigious
All-America team

SunHerald

SOUTH MISSISSIPPI'S NEWSPAPER

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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2010

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4B

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2010

www.sunherald.com

Favre named to Parade All-America team

SSC quarterback is
only player from
Mississippi on
prestigious team

By JIM MASHEK

jwmashek@sunherald.com

St. Stanislaus quarterback/
defensive back Dylan Favre
racked up yet another pres-



Favre

Football Team.

The weekly magazine,
which can be found on Sun-
day's in the Sun Herald, chose
60 players, including seven

tigious hon-
or on Sun-
day when he
was named to
the 47th an-
nual Parade
All-America
High School

quarterbacks, for the team.

Favre guided St. Stanislaus
to the first state champion-
ship in school history.

He played big roles on
both offense and defense as
the Rockachaws whipped
Lafayette County 35-16 at
Mississippi Veterans Me-
morial Stadium in Jackson
on Dec. 6.

Favre is the first SSC play-
er chosen for the Parade All-

America team, according to
Rockachaws coach Forrest
Williams.

"We're excited for Dylan to
be recognized on a national
scale," Williams said. "It's an
honor for him, and our team.
To be recognized for his ac-
complishments on the field.
We wish him the best of luck
as he prepares to sign with
Mississippi State, and join
the Bulldogs."

Favre, a three-year start-
er at St. Stanislaus, passed
for 5,589 yards and 63 touch-
downs in his final season
with the Rockachaws, who
finished 15-1 overall.

He's the nephew of veter-
an NFL quarterback Brett
Favre, who took the Minne-
sota Vikings to the NFC title
game before last week's 31-
28 overtime loss to the New
Orleans Saints in the Loui-

siana Superdome.

Favre plans to sign on Na-
tional Signing Day with Mis-
sissippi State on Wednes-
day. The Bulldogs finished
5-7 last fall under first-year
coach Dan Mullen. Favre
was the only player from
Mississippi chosen on the
Parade team.

California and Texas had
the most players selected to
the team, with nine each.

Sports

SECTION B

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2010

Eight Coast teams vie for trip to Jackson

By DOUG BARBER
and JAMES JONES
The Sun Herald

Eight South Mississippi soccer teams are looking tonight for a trip to the state finals.

Among the six games, there is a local rivalry game in the South State Girls 6A title game between Biloxi and Ocean Springs.

Our Lady Academy, which has dueled St. Andrews for state supremacy the last three years, meet in the Girls 1A/2A/3A South State title game.

And another all-local duel

sends Gautier to Stone in the Boys 5A South State title game.

Powerful Gulfport goes to Brandon in Boys 6A play. East Central visits West Jones in Boys 5A action, and St. Stanislaus goes up to Florence in Boys 4A play.

Biloxi keeper Brittany Snyder, a 7th grader with 12 shutouts, tries to slow down Ocean Springs in Biloxi Stadium. The two teams split this season, with Ocean Springs gaining the Division 7-6A crown. Ocean Springs' has firepower in Brittany Renner and Tatiana Gonzalez while Biloxi counters with Sam Morgan,

Kendall Holloway and Farabee Shafter. Caitlin Buono has been outstanding in the net for Ocean Springs.

Gulfport is looking for its first boys state title, but must take Brandon on the road to get a shot at it. Jarred Arde' leads the Admiral attack with Justin Rose extremely efficient as the keeper.

Gautier has earned its second straight trip to the semifinals, but has to win at Stone.

"Our success was unexpected because we went through a lot of injuries, but we're peaking at the right time," Gators coach Cooper

Kimbrell said. "If we stay focused, we've got a chance to win the state title."

East Central (10-8) goes to West Jones after winning a shootout Saturday. Savannah Carpenter, Kacey Mixon, Aston Wells, Kali Carver and Valen Williams scored in the shootout. Briahna Dickerson is ECHS' keeper.

Perennial power St. Stanislaus likewise heads north to try and win Class 4A.

OLA won the Girls 1A/2A/3A state title in 2007 but St. Andrews has stopped the Crescents the past two years.

"We're excited to have the

opportunity to host St. Andrews," OLA coach Christi Elias said. "It's become quite a rivalry."

"I'm excited that our team is coming together, peaking at the right time. This team has several players who have scored. We are spreading our ability to score throughout the midfielders and forwards."

"St. Andrews has a very solid midfield and an organized defense. We match up closely with them. This could be a one-goal game."

Ashley Libys has been leading OLA in scoring.

STATE PLAYOFF PAIRINGS

TODAY:

- 6A Girls**
Ocean Springs at Biloxi, 6 p.m.
- 6A Boys**
Gulfport at Brandon, 6 p.m.
- 5A Girls**
East Central at West Jones, 6 p.m.
- 5A Boys**
Gautier at Stone High, 6 p.m.
- 4A Boys**
St. Stanislaus at Florence, 5 p.m.
- 1A/2A/3A Girls**
St. Andrews at Our Lady Academy, 5 p.m.

Sports

SECTION B

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2010

OLA romps into 10th finals in a row

Crescents seek 8th state title

By DOUG BARBER
dmbarber@sunherald.com

BAY ST. LOUIS — Ashley Libys is one of the high-scoring soccer forwards in South Mississippi.

She delivered Tuesday night for Our Lady Academy.

The Crescent junior collected a hat trick as OLA romped past St. Andrews 4-0 in the Class 1A/2A/3A Girls South State finals at Brother Phillip Memorial Stadium.

OLA (16-4) advances to its 10th consecutive state championship game, playing at 4 p.m. Friday at Clinton High School. The Crescents will be gunning for their eighth state championship.

St. Andrews (13-4-3) had beaten OLA in the last two Class 1A/2A/3A state title games.

"It was good to get some revenge," Libys said. "Our whole team wanted this one. We gave it our all. We knew if we got the first one, we had the game. We had to get our self-esteem up. Once we did that, we had the momentum to get another one and another one."

"We were expecting a PK shootout." Libys gave OLA a 1-0 lead when she scored in the 33rd minute of the first half. She scored off an Emily Sramek assist six minutes into the second half, and added the third goal 12 minutes into the second half.



Web extra

More photos of the game are at sunherald.com.

Mischa Tice wrapped matters up with a long-range goal — of at least 30 yards — in the 25th minute.

"It's a sweet victory," OLA coach Christi Elias said. "Being such a young team, I was surprised how much the rivalry with St. Andrews had developed. It is exciting to be going back to Jackson."

"Ashley Libys is a coach's dream. She has speed, she never stops, she never has a down game. She leaves it all on the field in every game she plays."

"Madison Scardino is our sweeper and she leads our defense. She gets everything organized. Erin Gibson is a junior defender for us. Our defense stood strong; they won the South State title for us."

Savannah Lacoste and Emma Holland combined on the shutout.



WILLIAM COLGIN/SUN HERALD

Blake Stefano of OLA goes up for a header.

PREP ROUNDUP

Gulfport, SSC, Gautier reach state soccer finals

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Jarred Arde' scored as Gulfport defeated Brandon 2-0 in the 6A South State Finals on Tuesday night.

The Admirals (15-1-2), reaching their second straight state finals, will face Northwest Rankin for the 6A championship on Saturday at 7:30 p.m. at Clinton High School.

St. Stanislaus 2, Florence 1: The Rockachaws won in the sudden death, clinching their second straight trip to the 4A state Finals.

Cole Phillips and Kollin Cannon scored for the Rockachaws (13-5-1).

West Jones girls 1, East Central 0: The Lady Mustangs (21-0-1) remained unbeaten and head toward their second straight state title.

Gautier 3, Stone 0: Kabe Sears scored twice and Joel Zilla added a goal as the Gators (9-6-1) advanced to the 5A state finals.

Gautier plays Ridgeland on Saturday at 3 p.m. in Clinton.

BASKETBALL

Bay High 37, Presbyterian Christian 31: Rebecca Resor scored 12 points as the Lady Tigers (20-5) won their 20th game.

Bay High boys 61, Presbyterian Christian 20: Daron Bell led the Tigers (25-2) with 27 points in the win.

Pascagoula girls 50, George County 47: Ashuntrese Wil-

liams and Oneisha Biggs each scored 12 points for the Lady Panthers (12-10, 2-4 Division 7-6A). George County was led by Mona Pritchett's 17 points. Ebony Jordan added 13.

Vancleave girls 51, East Central 35: Presley Owens scored 14 points, while Rakaya Hughes added 11 and Joy Williams chipped in 10 for the Lady Bulldogs (17-8, 6-0).

Jenna Brun paced the Lady Hornets with 13.

Vancleave boys 60, East Central 46: Colin Bray led the Bulldogs with 21 points and 12 rebounds, while Isiah Warren added 16 points.

Brance Crane and Matt Carter each scored 12 points for the Hornets (5-15).

Harrison Central boys 49, Ocean Springs 47: C.J. White scored 11 points as the Red Rebels (15-9) slipped past the Greyhounds. Allen Howze and Cole Donaldson each scored 14 points for Ocean Springs.

Pass Christian girls 50, Gulfport 23: The Lady Pirates ran their record to 23-3 behind Jasmine Bradley's 19 points and Kiana Welch's 10. Dana Jones led the Lady Admirals with 11 points.

Gulfport boys 65, Pass Christian 51: Ashley Holmes led the Admirals (18-8) with 18 points, followed by D.J. Nicholas' 17 and Jeremy Newsome added 10. Stanley Magee led the Pirates with 20 points and Derek Saucier had 15.

Hancock 70, Petal 51: Alex

Meyer scored 19 points to lead the Hawks (9-14, 3-3 Division 8-6A).

Pascagoula 67, George County 66: LeBaron McMillan scored 20 points to lead the Panthers (14-9, 3-3 Division 7-6A) in overtime.

Ladarian Johnson and Bryan Williams each had 18. Adrian Bradley led the Rebels with 28; Kenny Crear had 21.

Hancock girls 53, Petal 33: Lasenda Smith scored 11 points as the Lady Hawks (16-8, 4-2 Division 8-6A).

D'Iberville girls 54, St. Martin 43: Brittany Dobbs led the Lady Warriors with 16 points and Jordyn Foster chipped in 15.

Caitlyn Williams led the Lady Yellow Jackets with 14 points.

St. Martin boys 62, D'Iberville 43: Jyrus Carriere fired in 19 points and pulled down 13 rebounds, and Speedo Barlow dished out 17 assists.

Eugene Walton added 14 points, while Darryl Warrick chipped in 11 points.

Justin Brister led the Warriors with 16 points.

Gautier boys 81, Moss Point 70: Aaron Jones scored a game-high 30 points with Marguis Wells adding 14 and Travonta Thomas chipping in 12 for the Gators (14-7, 4-2 Division 7-5A).

The Tigers were led by Jay Cunningham's 29 points.

St. Patrick 73, Perry Central 43: Daniel Grieves scored 27 points and grabbed 15 rebounds to lead the Fighting Irish (15-9).

Sports

SECTION B

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2010

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By JAMES JONES

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 Sun Herald TV

For more video, visit
sunherald.com

The Coast had its most star-studded college football recruiting classes in years Wednesday.

Six local players signed Division I scholarships on National Signing Day.

St. Stanislaus' Parade All-American quarterback Dylan Favre landed with Mississippi State.

"That was the biggest thing," Favre said. "With my height (5-foot-11), I didn't get a lot of looks. I am glad Coach (Dan) Mullen and Mississippi State gave me a shot. I am thrilled to be a Bulldog and I expect to play for an SEC championship."

"I have spoke with some of the other players in the class and they feel the same way. Coach Mullen has put the swagger back in Mississippi State. I know he expects it (a championship)."

Ocean Springs had two D-I signees in tight end Travis Dickson (LSU) and line-backer Alan Howze (Southern Miss).

Harrison Central produced two signees in quarterback Aerion Williams (Arkansas State) and cornerback Furious Bradley

(Southern Miss).

"I feel great about playing at Arkansas State," Williams said. "I'm getting a chance to play quarterback."

Bradley, who ran for more than 900 yards, is projected to play cornerback for the Golden Eagles.

"I'm real excited about getting a chance to play at the next level and Southern Miss," Bradley said.

Gautier offensive guard Daniel Quave signed with Louisiana-Lafayette.

The Big 3 — Southern Miss, Ole Miss and Mississippi State — all had impressive signing classes.

The Golden Eagles (7-6 in 2009) stayed within their South Mississippi confines and landed Oak Grove wide receiver Steve McNair Jr.

Ole Miss (9-4 in 2009) landed the state's top-ranked junior-college recruit, East Mississippi quarterback Randall Mackey. Most of the Rebels' in-state recruits came from the junior college ranks, which included Gulf Coast defensive back Damien Jackson and defensive end Wayne Dorsey.



JAMES EDWARD BATES/SUN HERALD

St. Stanislaus quarterback Dylan Favre signed to play football with Mississippi State University on Wednesday.

Inside More on National Signing Day, 7B

Top 10 recruits

The Sun Herald's Top 10 Coast recruits and their college choices:

Name	Pos.	School	College
Travis Dickson	TE	Ocean Springs	LSU
Furious Bradley	CB	Harrison Central	USM
Dylan Favre	QB	St. Stanislaus	Miss. State
R.J. Spivery	WR	George County	USM
Alan Howze	RB	Ocean Springs	USM
Aerion Williams	QB	Harrison Central	Ark. State
Daniel Quave	OL	Gautier	UL-Lafayette
Sam Noblin	DB	Ocean Springs	undecided
Brandon Keel	LB	Harrison Central	Ole Miss
Travonta Thomas	DB	Gautier	Miss. Gulf Coast C.C.

Favre headlines '10 football signees

COLLEGE SIGNEES

MISSISSIPPI STATE

Vick Ballard, rb, 5-11, 210, Miss. Gulf Coast CC, Pascagoula, Miss.
 Ferlando Bohanna, lb, 6-0, 230, Whitehaven HS, Memphis, Tenn.
 James Carmon, dl, 6-7, 360, Miss. Gulf Coast CC, Baltimore, Md.
 Michael Carr, ath, 6-1, 195, West Point (Miss.) HS
 Blaine Clausell, ol, 6-7, 310, Baker HS, Mobile, Ala.
 Paul Crawford, dl, 6-8, 235, Hebron HS, Lewisville, Texas
 Dillon Day, ol, 6-4, 260, West Monroe (La.) HS
 Kaleb Eulls, dl, 6-4, 255, Yazoo City (Miss.) HS
 Dylan Favre, qb, 5-11, 190, St. Stanislaus HS, Bay St. Louis, Miss.
 Nick Griffin, rb, 5-11, 195, Perry Central HS, New Augusta, Miss.
 Corvell Harrison-Gay, lb/de, 6-3, 220, NE Jones HS, Laurel, Miss.
 Brandon Hill, ath, 6-2, 210, West Lowndes HS, Crawford, Miss.
 Christian Holmes, db, 6-2, 235, Puckett (Miss.) HS
 Jeffrey Howie, ol/dl, 6-4, 330, Itavamba CC, Fulton, Miss.
 Chris Hughes, db, 6-0, 215, Davidson HS, Mobile, Ala.
 Jay Hughes, ath, 5-11, 175, Oak Grove HS, Hattiesburg, Miss.
 Malcolm Johnson, wr, 6-2, 205, Northridge HS, Tuscaloosa, Ala.
 Robert Johnson, wr, 6-0, 195, Oak Grove HS, Hattiesburg, Miss.
 Eric Lawson, ol, 6-6, 320, Olive Branch (Miss.) HS
 Jeremy Lee, ath, 5-10, 170, Hinds AHS, Utica, Miss.
 Jameon Lewis, ath, 5-9, 175, Tyertown (Miss.) HS
 Jamerson Love, db, 5-11, 175, Aberdeen (Miss.) HS
 Archie Muniz, ol, 6-5, 255, Cypress Creek HS, Houston, Texas
 Damien Robinson, ol, 6-8, 330, Olive Branch HS
 Curtis Virges, dl, 6-3, 290, West Point (Miss.) HS
 Matthew Wells, ath, 6-0, 190, Lawrence Co. HS, Monticello, Miss.

Sports

SECTION D

WWW.SUNHERALD.COM

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2010

Reach us

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dmbarber@sunherald.com

Coast teams take aim on soccer titles

By DOUG BARBER

dmbarber@sunherald.com

The high school soccer season reaches its apex this weekend as five Coast teams battle for state championships.

The center of the action today and Saturday is Clinton High School.

Perennial power Our Lady Academy takes on Madison St. Joe today at 4 p.m. for the girls 1A/2A/3A state championship.

St. Stanislaus (13-5-1) starts off Saturday's action at 11:30 a.m. by meeting West Lauderdale for the 4A title. Gautier (9-6-1) battles Ridgeland for the 5A boys title at 3:30 p.m. The Biloxi girls (14-1-1) meet Madison Central at 5:30 p.m. for the 6A Girls title while the Gulfport boys (15-1-2) battle Northwest Rankin for the 6A boys title.

OLA (16-4) has outscored its opponents 17-1 in the state playoffs while Madison St. Joe has outscored its foes 17-0.

The Gulfport boys are in quest of their first state championship and have been strong defensively, defeating Oak Grove 2-0, Ocean Springs 3-2 in sudden death, and Brandon 2-0.

"Throughout the season, from Day One, the hunger to win has been there," first-year Gulfport coach Cecil Hinds said. "We just had to channel it in the right direction."

"We have been a solid team defensively. Justin Rose (in the net) has been stellar."

"Upfront, Jarred Arde', Austin Douglas and Kenny Hudson have been strong and they play like they are hungry for a goal. You can't pinpoint one person to stop. We are not one-dimensional."

Ironically, the Admirals face a Northwest Rankin team that Hinds coached for 10 years.

"They are just as hungry as we are," Hinds said. "I'm sure they want to prove to their old coach they can still do it."

The Biloxi girls have been strong defensively, shutting out Terry 5-0, Oak Grove 1-0 in overtime and Ocean Springs 1-0 in the playoffs on their way to the first title game. Seventh-grade keeper Brittany Snyder has posted 12 shutouts in 16 games.

Gautier has surrendered only one goal in the state playoffs, defeating Pica-yune 1-0; Long Beach 2-1; and Stone 3-0.

St. Stanislaus will face West Lauderdale.

Soccer title games

Coast teams in soccer state championship games:

Today

4 p.m.: Class 1A/2A/3A Girls — Our Lady Academy vs. Madison St. Joe

Saturday

11:30: Class 4A Boys — St. Stanislaus vs. West Lauderdale

3:30: Class 5A Boys — Gautier vs. Ridgeland

5:30: Class 6A Girls — Biloxi vs. Madison Central

7:30: Class 6A Boys — Gulfport vs. Northwest Rankin

Sports

SECTION B

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2010

Reach us

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Sports
228-896-2321
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GREG JENSON/THE CLARION LEDGER

Our Lady Academy's Blake Stefano (center) celebrates with her teammates after scoring the first goal in Friday's Class 1A-2A-3A championship match against Madison St. Joseph.

PREP ROUNDUP

Pass Christian trounces Poplarville

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Stanley Magee scored 14 points as Pass Christian defeated Poplarville 70-53 on Friday night. Denzell Bradley added 11 for the Pirates (21-6 overall, 9-3 Division 8-4A). Jaylin Raynes led Poplarville with 12 and Bryson Barnett had 11.

Lumberton girls 47, Our Lady Academy 41: Cally McNally scored 16 points and seven rebounds as the Lady Crescents (10-12 overall, 2-10 Division 8-2A).

Pass Christian girls 45, Poplarville 36: Jasmine Bradley scored 17 points for the Lady Tigers (24-3, 10-0 Division 8-4A). Daiquri Rain led the Lady Hornets with 15 points.

Pascagoula girls 46, Gautier 24: Toy Johnson scored 16 points to lead the Lady Panthers (12-10). O'nesha Biggs added 11. Jordan Greer led

Gautier with 11.

D'Iberville 40, Stone 33: Jordyn Foster scored 14 points as the Lady Warriors (15-9, 5-1 Division 8-5A). Simone Tillman led Stone with 11 points.

Vancleave girls 56, George County 47: Joy Williams and Rakaya Hughes each scored 15 points to lead the Lady Bulldogs (18-8). Presley Owens added 12 and Carrie Inabinette finished with 11. Mona Pritchett led the Lady Rebels with 24.

St. Martin girls 54, East Central 42: Catelyn Williams led the Lady Yellow Jackets (10-15) with 14 points while Raven Finch added 10. Telma Dock paced the Lady Hornets with 19 points.

St. Martin 59, East Central 26: The Yellow Jackets jumped out to a 20-2 lead en route to the win. Eugene Walton led St. Martin (17-9)

with 10 points.

Pascagoula 50, Gautier 46: Bryan Williams scored 14 and Corderis Weathers added 10 for the Panthers (14-10). Aaron Jones led the Gators with 15.

Ocean Springs girls 49, Picayune 29: The Lady Greyhounds (23-3) were led by Laquesha Edwards' 13 points. Bre Edwards added 11 points and Kiah Joiner added 10 for Ocean Springs. Sheronda Jackson led Picayune (16-9) with 12 points.

Ocean Springs boys 54, Picayune 38: Joe Morrow paced the Greyhounds with 16 points followed by Alan Howze and Chase Krotter with 11 points each.

Long Beach girls 60, Bay High 49: Natalya Owens scored 21 points followed by Delainna Lyons with 18 and Chrissy Slade adding 14 for the Lady Bearcats (18-6)

Krystian Lyons led Bay High with 15 points with Christa Reed and Jeremi Raboteau each added 12.

St. Patrick 62, Collins 57: Daniel Grieves scored 28 points and grabbed 12 rebounds as the Fighting Irish (16-9, 8-2 Division 8-3A) won. Tyler Magandy added 16 points and eight rebounds.

Oak Grove girls 65, Petal 55: Monte Brewer scored 22 points to lead the Lady Warriors (13-7).

Oak Grove 60, Petal 51: Antonio Benton scored 21 points to lead the Warriors (11-8).

Vancleave 76, George County 50: Colin Bray fired in 20 points and Donny Leggett added 13 and Tim Bond chipped in 12 for the Bulldogs (15-10). Adrian Bradley led the Rebels with 15 points.



GREG JENSON/THE CLARION LEDGER

Our Lady Academy's Mischa Tice controls the ball against Julie Turner of Madison St. Joseph.

Crescents win state soccer title

By DOUG BARBER

dmbarber@sunherald.com

CLINTON — Sophomore Blake Stefano scored off a header four minutes into the Girls 1A/2A/3A state soccer championship game Friday evening.

And the rout was on.

Our Lady Academy turned in a dominating performance, shutting out Madison St. Joseph 4-0 in a game that was as one-sided as the score.

Mischa Tice provided the assist on the first goal, then added the second goal at the 18:35 mark and OLA (17-4) took a 2-0 lead into halftime.

OUR LADY
ACADEMY

4

ST. JOSEPH

0

With 4:09 left in the game, OLA coach Christy Elias received the traditional ice water bath on the sideline, marking the Crescents eighth state soccer title and the fourth with Elias as the head coach.

"It never felt so good to get so wet on such a cold night," Elias said. "I always tell the girls to set the tone early in the game and we did."

"Our defense really stepped up this year. We are young. In the midfield, Blake was a real leader. She won every 50-50 ball."

Madison St. Joe, the North champion, finished its season at 9-5-2.

High-scoring Ashley Libys, who barely missed a goal midway in the first half, found the net with 21:41 left in the game. Then Ashleigh Hoda finished off the scoring by connecting on a penalty kick with 7:58 remaining.

Stefano, the team captain, embraced the team concept.

"I've never played on a team that was this united," Stefano said. "It is amazing to be a part of this team. I have never felt better than this."

Tice was the only senior on the team and has signed a soccer scholarship with Southern Miss.

"We work on those crosses all season," Tice said of her assist on the opening goal. "On my goal, it deflected off a lot of people and I was there to put it in."

"It's been a great feeling to be a leader on this team and have the girls look up to me."

Emma Holland played keeper in the shutout until midway in the second half, whereupon Savannah Lacoste came into the net.

Tice almost had a second goal with 12:20 left in the first half when she scored after a deflection of a Libys shot. However, the goal was waved off.

Biloxi makes first-ever trip to 6A soccer finals

By DOUG BARBER
dmbarber@sunherald.com

The Biloxi Lady Indians will be making their first appearance in Class 6A state soccer finals after defeating Ocean Springs 1-0.

Of the five Coast finalists, Biloxi is the one team making its inaugural trip to the Jackson metro area.

Biloxi (14-1-1) meets Madison Central at 5:30 p.m. Saturday in the girls 6A title game at Clinton High School.

In other championship games, OLA meets Madison St. Joe Friday at 4 p.m. for the girls 1A/2A/3A title; Gulfport meets Northwest Rankin for the boys 6A title Saturday at 7:30 p.m.; Gautier meets Ridgeland at 3:30 p.m. Saturday for the 5A boys title; and St. Stanislaus meets either Center Hill or West Lauderdale for the 4A title on Saturday at 11:30 a.m.

An exceptional defense has been the key to the run to the state finals, according to



AMANDA MCCOY/SUN HERALD

Biloxi's Sam Morgan has scored 15 goals and dished out 16 assists for the South State champion Lady Indians.

ny Snyder has posted 12½ shutouts in 16 games.ing to first-year Biloxi coach Marco Mthembu.

"The defenders have stayed right on point as far as tactical," he said.

SOCCER TO 4B

4B WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2010

SunHerald PLAYER OF THE WEEK GIRLS



MISCHA TICE

OUR LADY
ACADEMY
SENIOR

Tice, a forward, scored a goal and added an assist in the Crescents' 4-0 win over St. Joseph in the Class 1A/2A/3A state title game.

SOCCER FROM 1B

tics," Mthembu said.

Seventh-grade keeper Brittany Snyder has posted 12½ shutouts in 16 games.

"It is amazing for a young girl to come in and do that well," Mthembu said.

"There are exceptional

players in front of her. Brittany has grown game by game. She has great fundamentals and her future looks good."

Mthembu cited Torri Ladd, Brittany Lang, Shannon Langlinais, Lauren Rackley and Torie Zimmer for their defense.

"They've all been excep-

tional," he said.

Offensively, Sam Morgan — who signed Wednesday with Troy — has scored 15 goals and dished out 16 assists. Kendall Holloway had 11 goals and eight assists, while Farabee Shafer had nine goals and three assists.

"Sam Morgan and Kendall Holloway have provided

ed brilliant leadership as well as have good technical abilities. The chemistry between the two of them is fantastic."

As for the outstanding record — with only one loss — Mthembu said he wasn't that surprised.

"I coached at St. Patrick last year and this year I had

the opportunity to coach at a bigger school," he said. "I looked at this Biloxi team and saw potential. Everything fell into place.

"And the girls were determined. They worked hard. They are good kids.

"In the beginning, they had believed they could go all the way. It has been an

incredible journey. We are very excited."

Madison Central won 5A state titles in 2009 and 2005, and lost to Gulfport in the 2008 finals.

"They are a very good team," Mthembu said. "They always have been a team to beat the last three seasons. We will be ready."

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St. Stanislaus, Gulfport win state soccer championships, 9B

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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2010



TODD DALTON/SPECIAL TO THE SUN HERALD

Phillip Prieur (12) and Kollin Cannon (25) helped lead St. Stanislaus to 5-0 shutout over West Lauderdale in the Class 4A state soccer finals.

St. Stanislaus drubs West Lauderdale for 4A title

By AL JONES

afjones@sunherald.com

CLINTON — St. Stanislaus' fifth soccer state championship looked easy on Saturday at Arrow Stadium, beating West Lauderdale 5-0.

ST. STANISLAUS
5
WEST LAUDERDALE
0

The Rockachaws (14-5-1) put the 4A title game away with three goals in 15 minutes

en route to their third title since 2000.

"It was a good win," St. Stanislaus coach Scott Pepperman said. "This is my first year at Stanislaus and it feels good."

St. Stanislaus, which has reached the state finals six times since 2000, scored first in the 30th minute from Phillip Prieur.

The Rockachaws put the game way when Kollin Cannon scored two goals in the first five minutes of the second half.

"I had to step it up," Can-

non said. "I missed a lot of shots in the first half. We talked at halftime about finishing and we did."

But the dominating performance by the Rockachaws wasn't over.

With 23 minutes left to play, freshman Cole Phillips scored an unassisted goal.

Jacob Boone capped off the scoring with a goal in the closing minutes.

"Winning (state championship) is awesome," Cannon said. "We won it in football and soccer. Let's see if we can do it in baseball."

SSC BASKETBALL ROCKS!

4C THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2010

Bay High ready for 4A South State

By JAMES JONES
jjones@sunherald.com

Bay High is only two victories away from its first-ever berth in the state basketball tournament.

The Tigers (29-3) will meet Newton County in the 4A South State quarterfinals today at home at 5:30 p.m.

"We're trying to build a basketball tradition here at Bay High," Tigers coach Kelton Thompson said. "Hosting the South State is a big deal for us. We don't have to travel.

"We can play right here in our dome."

Senior guard Daron Bell, who's averaging 20 points a game, is a leading candidate for the Sun Herald's player of the year.

Division 8-4A rival St. Stanislaus join the Tigers in the 4A South State tournament at the Tiger Dome. Bay High beat St. Stanislaus in the Division 8-4A Tournament finals on Monday at Forrest AHS.

The Rockachaws (25-2)

Game plan

Today's South State Boys 4A quarterfinals at Bay High:

4 p.m. — Northeast Lauderdale vs. South Pike

5:30 p.m. — Bay High vs. Newton County

7 p.m. — Quitman vs. Mendenhall

8:30 p.m. — St. Stanislaus vs. Port Gibson

face Port Gibson to close out the semifinal action at 8:30 p.m.

The other 4A South State quarterfinal contests are Northeast Lauderdale vs. South Pike (4 p.m.) and Quitman vs. Mendenhall (7 p.m.).

The 4A South State semifinals will be held Friday at 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., with the South State championship taking place on Saturday.

The 4A South State girls tournament pairings and site won't be completed until today.



SUN HERALD FILE

Daron Bell and the Bay High Tigers continue Class 4A South State Tournament play tonight at home.



WILLIAM COLGIN/SUN HERALD

Bay High's Cole Coe passes the ball to a teammate during the 4A South State semifinals against Newton County on Thursday.

Bell, Bay High ring up Newton County

St. Stanislaus advances with win over Port Gibson

By JAMES JONES

jjones@sunherald.com

BAY ST. LOUIS — Bay High guard Daron Bell might be the Coast's top basketball player.

The Tigers' senior won't get any argument from Newton County.

Bell scored 20 points as Bay High trounced Newton County 71-53 in the 4A South State quarterfinals on Thursday evening at the Tiger Dome.

Bay High (30-3) meets Northeast Lauderdale in

the 4A South State semifinals today at 6 p.m.

Bell scored nine points during a game-deciding 14-0 run, turning the Tigers' 47-41 deficit into an eight-point advantage with six minutes left in regulation.

The Cougars (19-10) never recovered, as Bay High made clutch plays down the stretch to advance into the semifinals.

"We saw film of Newton County and when they get down, they stop playing team ball," Bell said. "I knew we'd pick it up and win."

Bell, who also had seven rebounds and six assists, also got plenty of help from his teammates.

Demitry Johnson had 18 points and four assists for the Tigers. Devon Narcisse, Brennan Dunklin, Devin Arrington and Alonzo Artis all played solid defense for the Division 8-4A champions.

For a half or so, the Cougars gave the Tigers fits.

The smaller Newton County squad led 15-14 after one quarter and 30-28 at half-time.

LaDarren Jones led the Cou-

gars with 20 points. Hakeem Wesley added 12, and Tra-maine Johnson produced 10 points and 10 rebounds.

"Newton County's tough," Tigers coach Kelton Thompson said. "We've never been to the state tournament and we've got one more game to win. The players did a great job."

St. Stanislaus 48, Port Gibson 33: Johnny Zuppardo scored 20 points as the Rockachaws (27-2) cruised to an easy 4A South state quarter-

STATE TO 4D

SunHerald

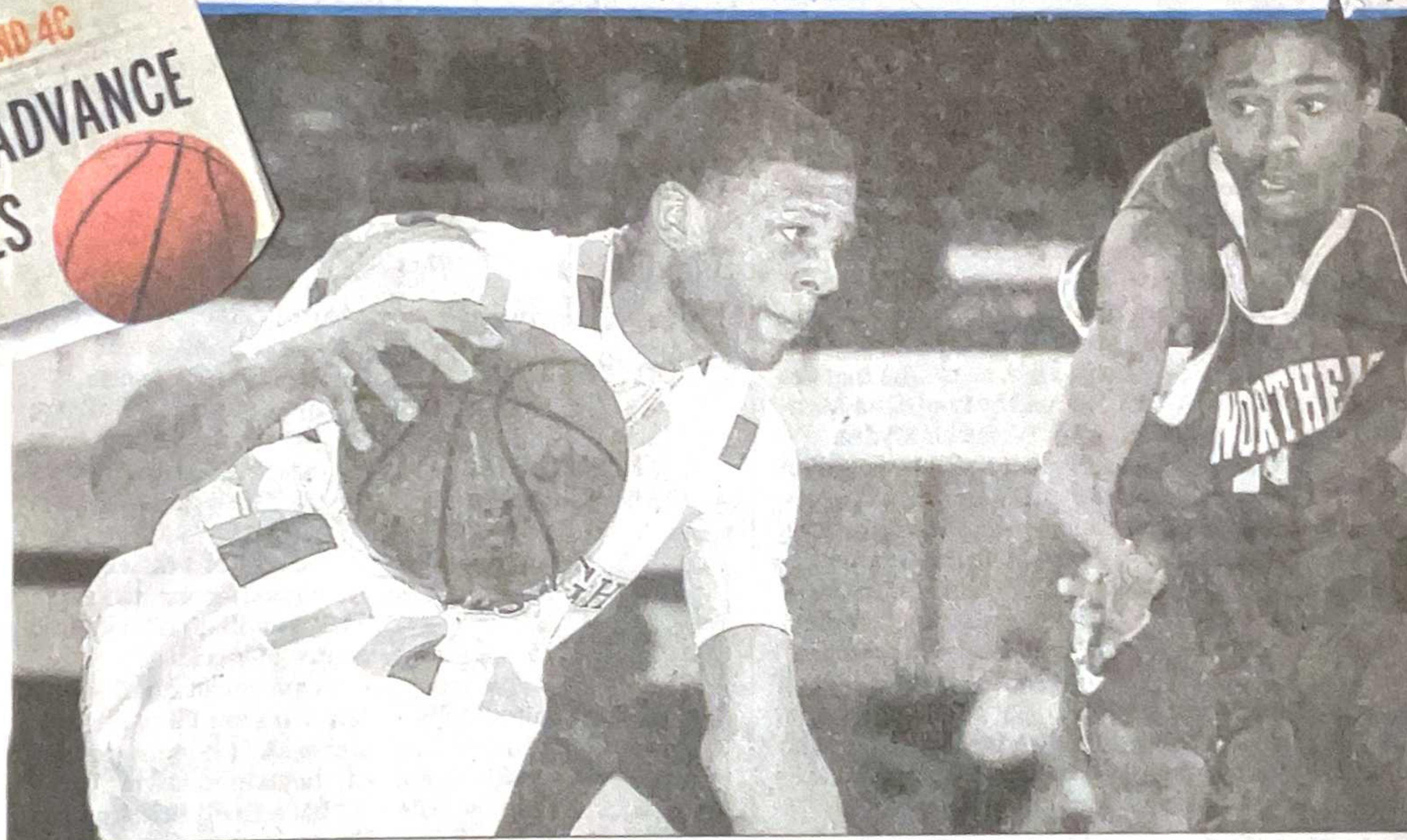
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75¢ VOL. 126, NO. 140

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2010

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**SOUTH STATE, 1C AND 4C
4 TEAMS ADVANCE
TO FINALS**



AMANDA McGOY/SUN HERALD

Bay High's Daron Bell dribbles around Northeast Lauderdale's Devian Eggleston during Friday's Class 4A South State semifinal.

Rivals advance to 4A South State finals

Bay High, SSC win
semifinal games

By **MIKE WOTEN**
Sun Herald

BAY ST. LOUIS — Bay High's quest for Jackson and the State Tournament was realized Friday night as the buzzer sounded, sending the partisan crowd into hysteria as the Tigers turned back red-hot Northeast Lauderdale 55-48 in the Class 4A South State semifinals.

The Tigers' first trip to Jackson in the school's history was a hard-fought battle against a Northeast Lauderdale team that came into the game with a 16-game winning streak.

Bay High's Daron Bell turned in a stellar performance, scoring 27 points and pulling down 16 rebounds to lead the 31-3 Tigers.

Bay will face rival St. Stanislaus for the 4A South State

title tonight at 7:30. St. Stanislaus stopped Mendenhall 45-35.

"When I came here these kids were in the eighth grade and their lives were completely turned upside down from (Hurricane) Katrina," Bay High coach Kelton Thompson said. "I told these kids that we would go to Jackson when they were seniors and they worked their butt off and made it."

Bay High took the lead for the first time in the game when Bell stole a pass and ran the length of the court for a layup with two minutes remaining in the first half. The Tigers enjoyed a 26-21 lead at halftime.

The Tigers built a 41-30 lead midway in the third quarter only to have Northeast Lauderdale inch its way back into the game.

Northeast Lauderdale's Johnny Johnson sent them into a 43-41 lead with jumper with 5:41 remaining in

the game.

Bay High's Alonzo Artis came through with a crucial reverse layup, drawing a foul and hitting the free throw to vault the Tigers to 48-45 led with 2:41 left in regulation.

"That was a key basket for sure," Thompson said. "He had great position and really delivered on that play."

The Tigers' excellent free throw shooting in the final minute proved to be the doom of Northeast Lauderdale as Demitry Johnson, Devon Narcisse and Bell all converted bonus free throws.

"It's been our goal to do this for a long time," Bell said. "Some people doubted our ability to do this, but we know we belong and we worked hard for this night."

The idea a few years ago that the team would achieve this feat after the entire city — including Bay High's gym — was decimated by Katrina seemed distant. It had

Demitry Johnson reflecting on the journey.

"This tonight is about our city and the work and dedication that everyone in Bay St. Louis represents. We don't quit and we have more work to do. We want to win the state title," he said.

Northeast Lauderdale (23-8) was led by Johnny Jones with 18 points and A.J. Wade with 17 points.

Nicholas Vazquez scored 14 points and John Michael Zuppardo 13 as SSC improved to 27-6. Zuppardo's layup with 1:06 left in regulation put the Rocks up 41-33.

"I've never been as proud of anyone as this bunch," St. Stanislaus coach Jay Ladner said. "We lost all our starters from last year. Not a lot of people gave us a chance but these kids worked. This is our fifth game in six days and the kids came through."

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

IN THE HISTORY BOOKS

Bay High advances to Class 4A South State finals,
earns first-ever trip to Overall Tournament

Sports

SECTION C

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2010

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AMANDA MCCOY/SUN HERALD

Bay High's Cole Coe pushes through the Northeast Lauderdale defense while going for the basket in Friday's Class 4A South State semifinal at the Tiger Dome.

By DOUG BARBER
dmbarber@sunherald.com

Bay High achieved some basketball history Friday on elimination night in South State basketball.

The 31-3 Tigers defeated Northeast Lauderdale 55-48 to advance to the South State Boys 4A finals tonight at 7:30, and in the process, qualified for their first trip in school history to the state tournament.

Bay faces rival St. Stanislaus for the South State title tonight at 7:30. St. Stanislaus knocked off Mendenhall 45-35 to earn a trip to Jackson.

The Biloxi boys and Harrison Central girls likewise qualified for the State Tournament with semifinal victories on Friday.

Biloxi turned back Brandon 68-63 in the South State

High School Playoff Scoreboard

South State 6A Girls Semifinals at Hattiesburg		5A Boys Semifinal at McComb	
Harrison Central	73	Forest Hill	50
Ocean Springs	56	Moss Point	49
6A Boys Semifinals at Meridian		4A Boys Semifinals at Bay High	
Hattiesburg	60	Bay High	55
Natchez	58	NE Lauderdale	48
5A Girls Semifinal at Wayne County		4A Girls Quarterfinals at Raymond	
Biloxi	68	St. Stanislaus	45
Brandon	63	Mendenhall	35
Meridian	66	North Pike	57
Wingfield	58	Pass Christian	41
5A Girls Semifinal at Wayne County		4A Girls Quarterfinals at Raymond	
West Jones	51	Bay High	56
Vanceave	31	Lawrence Co.	71

Boys 6A semifinals at Meridian.

Jeremiah Dunnings scored 18 points and dished out four assists as Biloxi advanced to the finals against Meridian

tonight at 7.

Perennial girls power Harrison Central punched its ticket to Jackson as well with its South State Girls 6A semifinal victory over

Ocean Springs 73-56. The Red Rebelettes face Hattiesburg in today's South State final at 7:30 p.m.

Nitesha Pierce led Harrison Central with 23 points and Niesha Pierce had 18. Brianna Edwards led Ocean Springs with 19 points as the Lady Greyhounds finished their most successful season in school history.

Daron Bell triggered the Bay High win with a double-double — 27 points, 16 rebounds. Dimitry Johnson chipped in 10 points.

On the upset side, North Pike stunned Pass Christian 57-41 in the South State 4A Girls Tournament at Raymond. Jasmine Bradley led the Lady Pirates with 20 points. Pass finished its season at 27-4.

See 4C for more playoff results.

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Class 1A 2 3 4 OT

Myrtle (G)
West Lincoln (G)

Myrtle (B)
McAdams (B)

McAdams (G)
Byers (G)

Durant (B)
Ingomar (B)

Class 2A
New Site (G)
Hinds AHS (G)



Mississippi Coliseum,
Jackson, Mississippi

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Championship
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1A Boys:

Myrtle vs McAdams - Friday, 10:30 a.m.
March 4 - 2:30 p.m.

Durant vs Ingomar - Friday, 2:30 p.m.

2A

Baldwyn vs Loyd Star - Friday, 8:00 p.m.
March 4 - 8:30 p.m.

Hinds AHS vs West Bolivar - Saturday, 10:30 a.m.

3A

Holly Springs vs Forest - Saturday, 2:30 p.m.
March 5 - 2:30 p.m.

Kemper Co. vs East Side - Saturday, 8:00

4A

Pontotoc vs St. Stanislaus - Monday, 2:30 p.m.
March 5, 8:30 p.m.

Bay vs Center Hill - Monday 8:00

5A

Provine vs Forest Hill Tuesday, 2:30 p.m.
6, 2:30 p.m.

McComb vs Callaway, Tuesday, 8:00 p.m.

6A

Starkville vs Biloxi - Wednesday, 2:30 p.m.
March 6, 8:30 p.m.

Meridian vs Greenville Weston - Wednesday, 8:00

Championship -

Championship-

Championship -

Championship -

Championship- March

Championship -

Sports

SECTION B

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2010

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AMANDA MCCOY/SUN HERALD

Bay High's Daron Bell, center, and Devon Ferrington defend as St. Stanislaus' Nick Vasquez drives to the basket during the Class 4A South State championship game on Saturday.

DOUBLE THE PLEASURE

Bay High, Red Rebelettes capture South State championships

By JAMES JONES
jkjones@sunherald.com

Bay High didn't rest on clinching the school's first-ever state basketball tournament berth.

The Tigers defeated St. Stanislaus 39-36 on Saturday night in the 4A South State Finals on Saturday night at the Tiger Dome.

Harrison Central defeated Hattiesburg 48-44 to win the 6A South State girls title in Hattiesburg.

The Red Rebelettes (28-5) have won two straight South State championships, beating Hattiesburg for the first time in three tries this season.

Homestanding Meridian defeated Biloxi 67-50 to win the 6A South State championship. See 7B for more coverage.



AMANDA McCOY/SUN HERALD

Bay High's Demitry Johnson drives to the basket against St. Stanislaus during the 4A South State championship game on Saturday.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2010

7B

CHEERLEADERS PERFORM AT WALT DISNEY WORLD



St. Stanislaus College junior varsity cheerleaders Kathryn Kidd, Sara Luther and Brooke Thomas were among 500 elementary, junior high and high school cheerleaders who performed in the UCA/UDA Thanksgiving Tour at the Walt Disney World Resort in Orlando. Kidd, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Trey Kidd of Bay St. Louis; Luther, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Luther of Diamondhead; and Thomas, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Thomas of Bay St. Louis, earned the honor by being selected All-American Cheerleaders during the UCA Summer Camp in Panama City Beach, Fla. Pictured: Luther, left, Thomas and Kidd.

And then there were 4

Harrison Central, Biloxi, Bay, SSC prepare for state

By DOUG BARBER

dmbarber@sunherald.com

The magic number for Harrison Central is 14.

The magic number for Biloxi is six.

For Bay High and St. Stanislaus, it is one.

No, we're not talking about the points you need to win the State Basketball Tournament. We're talking about the number of state championships you hope to own after March 6.

Harrison Central, the South State champion, will begin its tournament quest on March 3 at 6:30 p.m. in Jackson when the Red Rebelettes (28-5) take on Greenville Weston in the 6A Girls state semifinals. The Red Rebelettes have won 13 state championships in school history, the last coming in 2005.

Biloxi (27-3), the 6A Boys South State runner-up, will play earlier on March 3, tipping off at 2:30 p.m. against North State champi-

Tournament

Semifinals and finals at the State High School Tournament for Coast teams and their possible competitors:

CLASS 4A BOYS
Monday, March 1
Pontotoc vs. St. Stanislaus, 2:30 p.m.

Bay High vs. Center Hill, 8 p.m.

Friday, March 5
Championship game, 8:30 p.m.

CLASS 6A BOYS
Wednesday, March 3

Starkville vs. Biloxi, 2:30 p.m.

Meridian vs. Greenville Weston, 8 p.m.

Saturday, March 6
Championship game, 8:30 p.m.

CLASS 6A GIRLS
Wednesday, March 3

Horn Lake vs. Hattiesburg, 1 p.m.

Harrison Central vs. Greenville Weston, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 6
Championship game, 7 p.m.



TIM ISBELL/SUN HERALD

Nitesha Pierce of Harrison Central puts up a jumper over Gabby Fricke of Hancock at the Division 8-5A Tournament. Pierce and her Red Rebelette teammates open State Tournament action on March 3 against Greenville Weston.

on Starkville. Biloxi owns five state championships, winning its fifth last season in Class 5A.

Bay High (32-3), the 4A Boys South State champion, will open tournament play next Monday at 8 p.m. against North runner-up Center Hill. This is Bay's second trip to the state tournament — the first time since 1958.

St. Stanislaus (21-7) has made numerous trips in Class 4A to the State Tournament under Coach Jay Ladner.

As the 4A Boys South State runner-up, the Rockachaws begin their quest next Monday at 2:30 p.m. against Pontotoc. If both SSC and Bay win, they would meet for the fifth time this season in the championship game on March 5 at 8:30 p.m.

HCHS coach Nancy Ladner directed the Red Rebelettes to the state tournament a year ago, and she knows her

STATE FROM 1B

team is hungry for No. 14.

"We're going to finish it this year," Ladner said. "I can see it in the girls' faces that they want it real bad. They don't want to settle for just going to Jackson. Last year we got up there and played a disappointing game. But it wasn't a disappointing season."

Although the Red Rebelettes have to wait nine days to play, Ladner said they will work hard until then. "I told the girls we couldn't look at it as a week from Wednesday, we have to practice like the game is tomorrow. I think we are peaking right now and we don't want to take any time off."

The seniors at Harrison Central were sophomores when Ladner succeeded Ricky Stone as the head basketball coach.

"The turning point of the season was when we took the team to Texas," Ladner said. "For three or four days, the girls bonded together. I wanted a tough schedule and I think it paid off against Hattiesburg."

Harrison Central knocked off Hattiesburg 48-44 last Saturday at Hattiesburg in the South State finals.

"We came out sloppy," Ladner said. "But the last

five or six minutes we went to our peak. I told the girls at halftime that they looked like they were satisfied with what they had already accomplished."

"Once we reached the fourth quarter, they saw the necessity to win. They dug in and played defense. We changed up a few things and got some stops."

Biloxi coach Seber Windham wanted to win Saturday's South State title game but he knows his team can bounce back in Jackson from the 67-50 setback to Meridian.

"Our goal was to come up here and win at least one," Windham said. "The goal is to get to Jackson."

The Indians know that one thing — they will have to handle half-court pressure better at the state tournament.

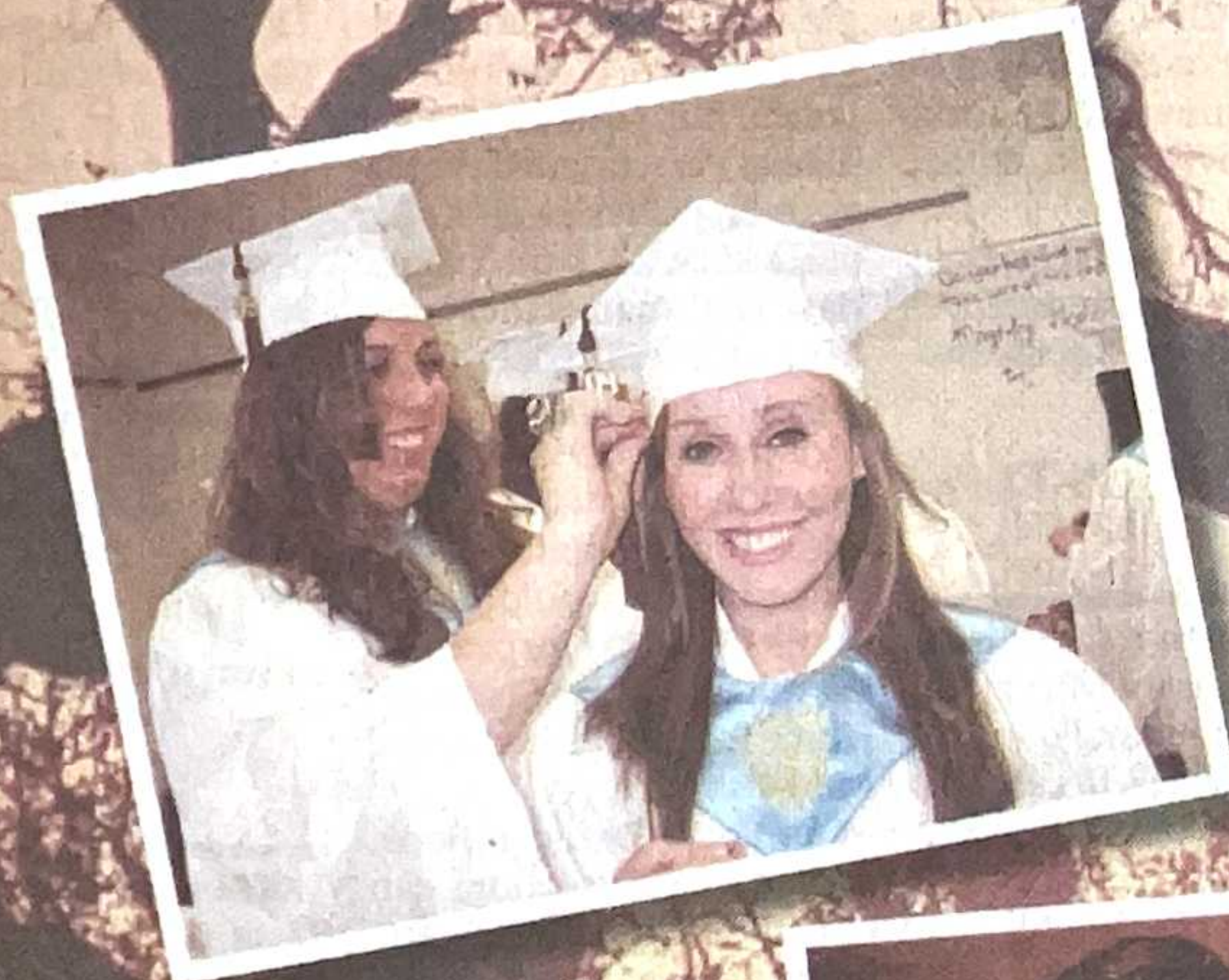
The possibility of Bay meeting St. Stanislaus in the 4A finals may have old-timers remembering the days when the George County and Harrison Central girls would play five or six times a season before meeting in the State finals.

The two teams have split their season series at two games apiece, but Bay has won the last two meetings to become the Division 8-4A champion and the South State 4A champion.

You are invited to our Open House!

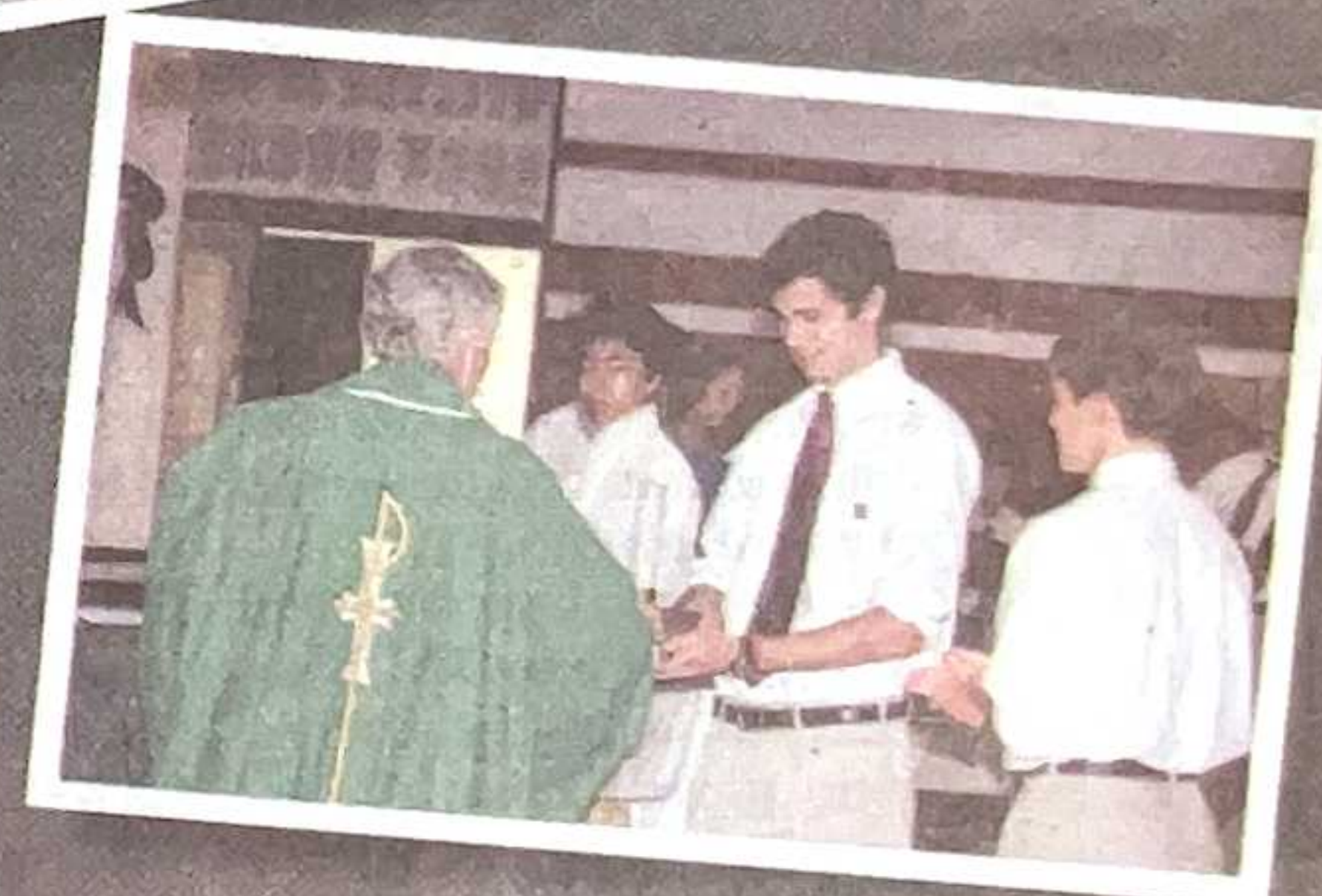
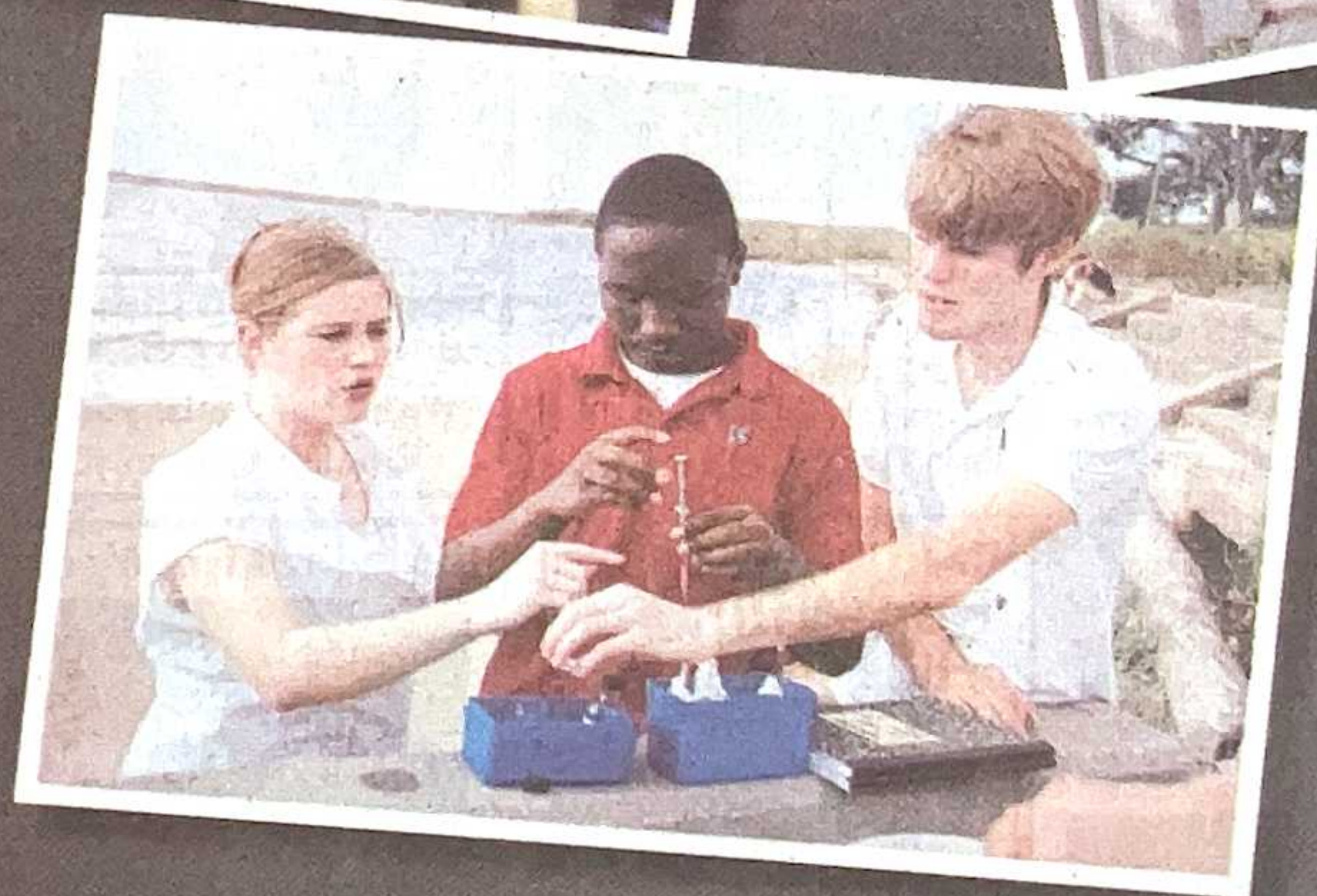
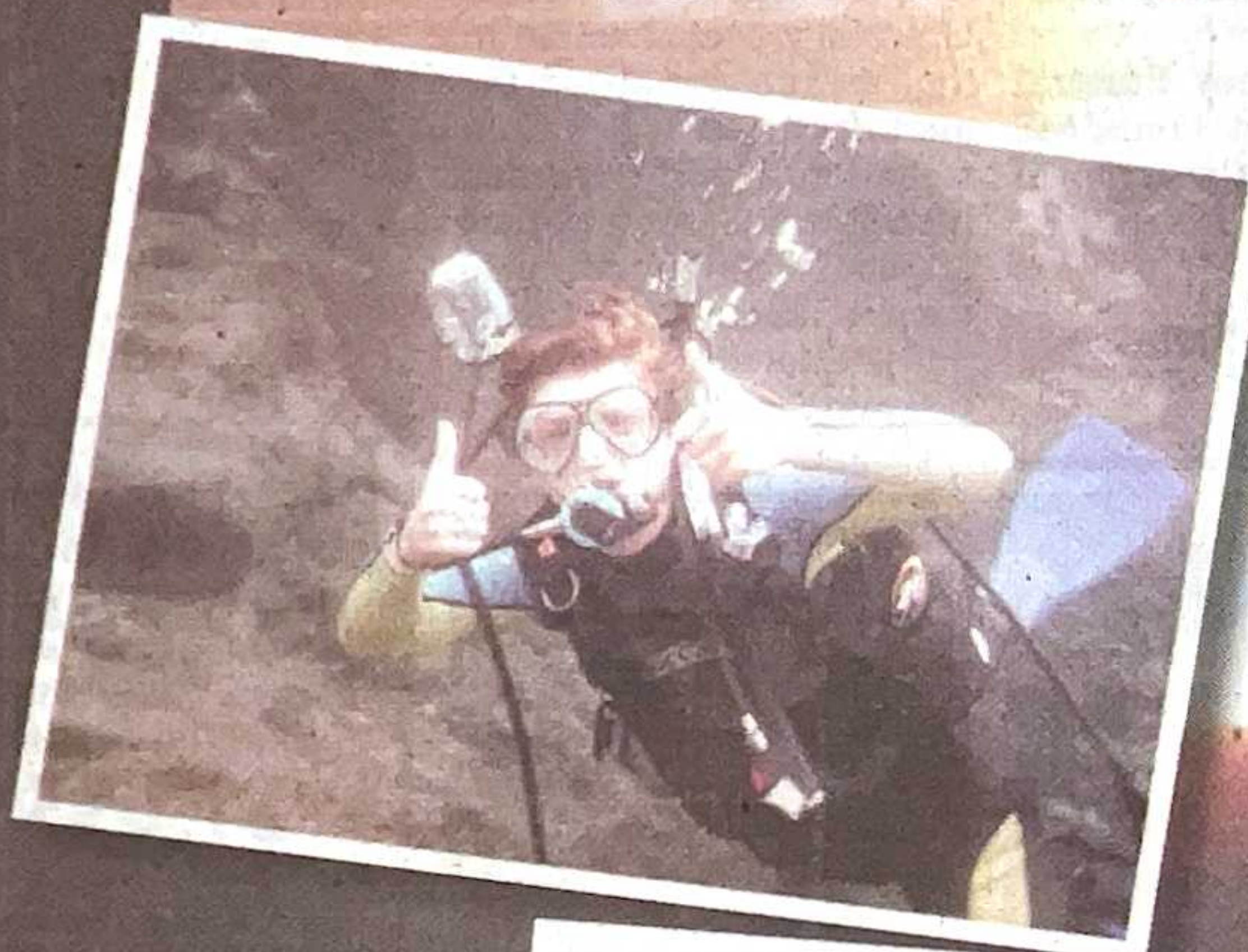
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Two Schools – One Spirit!

Play Ball! High school baseball begins Friday

The Coast features a pair of power-packed, Class 6A divisions

By DOUG BARBER

dmbarber@sunherald.com

The 2010 high school baseball season kicks off Friday night with a strong corps of returning players and new competition divisions for the vast majority of South Mississippi schools.

Yes, it's time for the annual rite of spring as Coast teams try to make a run at a state championship on the diamond.

Two South Mississippi players have already signed college baseball scholarships. Harrison Central's Wes Rea signed with Mississippi State and St. Stanislaus' Boomer Scarborough signed with Southern Miss. Biloxi junior pitcher Hawtin Buchanan has verbally committed to Ole Miss.



Justin Rose is one of the top returning players for Gulfport this baseball season.

WILLIAM COLGIN/SUN HERALD

.360 with 27 RBIs and three homers in 2009.

Division 7-5A

East Central went 29-7 a year ago. Returning vets include Chase Ehlers, Shane Pearson and Ryan Hamilton.

Vancleave is considered one of the favorites due to experienced players like Tyler Bray, Zac Haarala, Stuart Holmes, Nic Hodges, Colin Bray and Ryan Craft.

Moss Point returns its entire team. Top players include Corey Loggins, Josh Jones, Keith Barkley, Reggie Matthews and Quayshon Williams (coming back from an ACL injury).

Coach Justin Gros had Gautier competitive last year, and he is counting on Josh

Class 6A on the Coast is divided into Divisions 7 and 8, and are the same divisions as in Class 5A last season.

Gulfport, Hancock, Harrison Central and Petal make up Division 8 while Biloxi, George County, Ocean Springs and Pascagoula make up Division 7.

Class 5A is where major changes come into play. D'Iberville, Long Beach, St. Martin and new West Harrison make up Division 8.

East Central, Gautier, Moss Point and Vancleave comprise Division 7. Stone, Picayune, Pearl River Central and Wayne County make up Division 6.

Bay High, Pass Christian, Poplarville and St. Stanislaus compete in Division 8-4A, St. Patrick moves into Division 8-3A while Resurrection is part of Division 8-1A.

And how competitive do coaches think this season will be?

Ask Gulfport coach Tim Dowdy about his division.

"The No. 3 team in our division could be a contender," Dowdy said.

"This is the toughest division in 6A. Between Petal, Harrison Central, Hancock and us, we will have at least one guy pitching at the Division I level in the future."

Players to watch

Here are some of the players to watch in 2010 (2009 statistics shown if available):

- 1B/P Wes Rea, Harrison Central (.486, 42 RBIs, 6 home runs)
- P Boomer Scarborough, St. Stanislaus (8-2 W-L, 100 strikeouts, .451, 24 RBIs, 9 home runs)
- SS/P Michael Paul, Long Beach (.360, 26 RBIs, 6-3 W-L, 46 strikeouts)
- OF Senquez Golson, Pascagoula (.395, 32 RBIs, 14 stolen bases)
- 3B Daniel Miles, Pascagoula (.370, 27 RBIs)
- P/1B Hawtin Buchanan, Biloxi
- 3B Sam Noblin, Ocean Springs
- 1B Nick Boggs, Ocean Springs
- P/1B Jonathan Holder, Gulfport
- P Christian Talley, Hancock
- OF/P Mason Robbins, George County (.363, 12 RBIs)
- 3B/P Holden Watts, Stone High (.360, 27 RBIs, 3 home runs)
- OF Joey Harris, St. Patrick (.380, 30 RBIs)

Division 8-6A

Harrison Central returns a senior-laden team, including RBI producers Wes Rea (.486, 42 RBIs), Dalton Parker and Dieter Hamilton. Junior pitcher Jared Gates is back after going 6-3 with 47 strikeouts.

Gulfport has a young but talented team headed by seniors Kenny Hudson and Justin Rose. The Admirals have some good young pitchers in Jonathan Holder, Myles Gentry and Jake Chambliss.

Hancock showed marked improvement under coach Anthony DeWitt a year ago, and has pitcher Christian Talley. Petal is the favorite in an informal coaches poll.

Division 7-6A

Biloxi has some good pitchers in Buchanan, Jordan Skog and Jordan Mata, as well as a strong group of seniors with Colin Misko, Drew Welter, Micah Tomkins and Jason Parker.

Pascagoula has two excellent run producers in Senquez Golson (30 RBIs in 2009) and Daniel Miles (27 RBIs). Senior Zach Allen adds speed after stealing 28 bases.

Ocean Springs returns Sam Noblin, Nick Boggs, Travis Dickson, Tanner Noakley and Daniel Wineski from a squad that lost narrowly in the South State finals to Petal.

Tony Neal is the new coach at George County and he has three players back who hit

more than .300 — Mason Robbins (.363), Marty Stringfellow (.389) and Corey Bryan (.305).

Division 8-5A

Long Beach is coming off a division championship in 2009, and returns a strong corps of veterans in Timmy Maloney, Michael Paul, Chase Lunsford, B.K. Hammons, Cameron Powell and Koby Ross. The Bearcats are the division favorite.

St. Martin has two good pitchers in Matt Linger (6-2 in '09) and Tyler Quave (4-4). Quave also hit .365 a year ago when St. Martin went 19-10. Returning seniors include Linger, J.C. Cassidy and Chris Johnson.

Senior Drew Bosarge (.350,

Preseason Top 10

The Sun Herald preseason Top 10 in baseball (2009 records in parentheses):

1. Biloxi (17-12)
2. Ocean Springs (21-12)
3. Harrison Central (14-15)
4. St. Stanislaus (16-10)
5. George County (7-17)
6. Long Beach (17-12)
7. Gulfport (18-12)
8. Vancleave (17-11)
9. St. Martin (19-10)
10. Pascagoula (18-10)

24 RBIs) leads the D'Iberville attack. Senior catcher Jeremy Picard is also a key for the Warriors, who could rely on pitchers Matt Stanford and Tyler Taggart.

Craig Weinberg coaches the new West Harrison team, which posted a jambo-ree win over Gulfport.

Division 6-5A

Picayune is coming off a 22-5 campaign, and returns Jay Dedeaux, Brandon Jurich, Jonathan Hickman, Braxton Lee and Eric Smith.

Stone High is a senior-oriented team and coach Kevin Conard thinks that puts them in the mix in the division race. Holden Watts hit

Phillips, Bradley Phillips, Ky Taylor, Gage Miles and Austin Sheppard to make a run in the division.

Division 8-4A

Boomer Scarborough is an ace on the mound for St. Stanislaus (100 strikeouts, 8-2 last year) while also hitting .451 with nine homers and 29 RBIs. Also hitting more than .300 a year ago were Kolin Cannon, Krisjon Wilkerson, Jake Lindgren, Justin Vaughn and Lawrence Bourgeois.

Ricky Smith is the new coach at Bay High and he will be counting on Tyler Jordan, Anthony Lusco and Braxton Lafontaine. Bay returns eight starters.

Coach T.J. Fortune hopes to have Poplarville in the mix, with seven returning seniors. Maverick Smith hit .370 and sophomore Derek Martin hit .320.

Purvis and SSC are the favorites in the division.

Division 8-3A

St. Patrick will be dueling Sumrall in its new division. The Irish have some good bats but he is looking for pitching help. Veterans include Patrick Veale (.338, 22 RBIs), Joey Harris (30 RBIs, .380) and Joey Lacy (30 RBIs, .330).

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2010



DOUG BARBER/SUN HERALD

Harrison Central High School's key players are, front row, Kim Coleman and Sommer Harper. Back row from left, Latricia Stephens, Nitesha Pierce, Raven Hayes and Niesha Pierce. Not pictured is Jasmine Anderson.

No rest for Red Rebelettes

Harrison Central working hard for 6A semifinal against Greenville on Wednesday

By DOUG BARBER

dmbarber@sunherald.com

LYMAN — Even though their 6A State Tournament debut for 2010 was six days away, Harrison Central's Red Rebelettes were working Thursday like the game would tip off in a matter of hours.

After loosening up, the Red Rebelettes (28-5) worked on denying the low post pass and other defensive schemes, and displayed their potent fast break after grabbing the defensive rebound.

And when some mistakes were made, it was time to drop on the court and do some push-ups.

Greenville Weston (23-4) presents the next challenge in the 6A semifinals at the Mississippi Coliseum in Jackson next Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. A victory over Weston propels Harrison Central to the finals, and a chance to gain its goal of a 14th state title in school history.

"We're seniors, this is it," HCHS guard Kim Coleman said.

Senior Raven Hayes agreed.

State Tournament

Semifinals and finals at the State High School Tournament for Coast teams and their possible competitors:

CLASS 4A BOYS Monday, March 1

Pontotoc vs. St. Stanislaus, 2:30 p.m.
Bay High vs. Center Hill, 8 p.m.

Friday, March 5

Championship game, 8:30 p.m.

CLASS 6A BOYS Wednesday, March 3

Starkville vs. Biloxi, 2:30 p.m.
Meridian vs. Greenville Weston, 8 p.m.

Saturday, March 6

Championship game, 8:30 p.m.

CLASS 6A GIRLS Wednesday, March 3

Horn Lake vs. Hattiesburg, 1 p.m.
Harrison Central vs. Greenville Weston, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 6

Championship game, 7 p.m.

HCHS fast facts

Harrison Central girls basketball achievements:

State championships: 13

Division/district titles: 33

South State titles: 14 (since 1974)

2009-10 record: 28-5

want it to end like last year," she said.

Harrison Central made the State Tournament a year ago as the 5A South State champion. Whether the long wait due to the bye hurt or not, the Red Rebelettes didn't show their 'A' game a year ago.

Under the new format this year, no team gets a logistical advantage. There are no byes.

Harrison Central defeated Hattiesburg to win the South State title, and it was the Lady Tigers' first home loss of the season.

"We've been telling the girls to practice as if the game is tomorrow," HCHS coach Nancy Ladner said.

"Last year these girls had never played before in the Big House. We're not doing anything really different. We are treating it like a normal game.

"I think the Texas trip and the HoopsFest have prepared us better for the State Tournament."

Breanna Lewis, an Ole Miss signee, will be a focus of attention for the Red Rebelettes' defense. The Weston guard averages 27.1 points and 9.4 rebounds. Jasmine Anderson, who missed Thursday's practice due to illness, is a Red Rebelette defensive specialist and she will probably draw that crucial assignment against Lewis. Ladner said that Anderson was superb in stopping Gulfport's Dana Jones at the Division 8-6A Tournament.

"We are planning to throw a few different things at them," Ladner said. "You do have to stick with what gets you there. But there are times ... In Hattiesburg, we were down. We went to a zone, trapped them and got four steals out of it and turned the game around."

"We have to win, we don't

A new arms race on the Coast

Talented crop of pitchers ready to replace last year's standouts



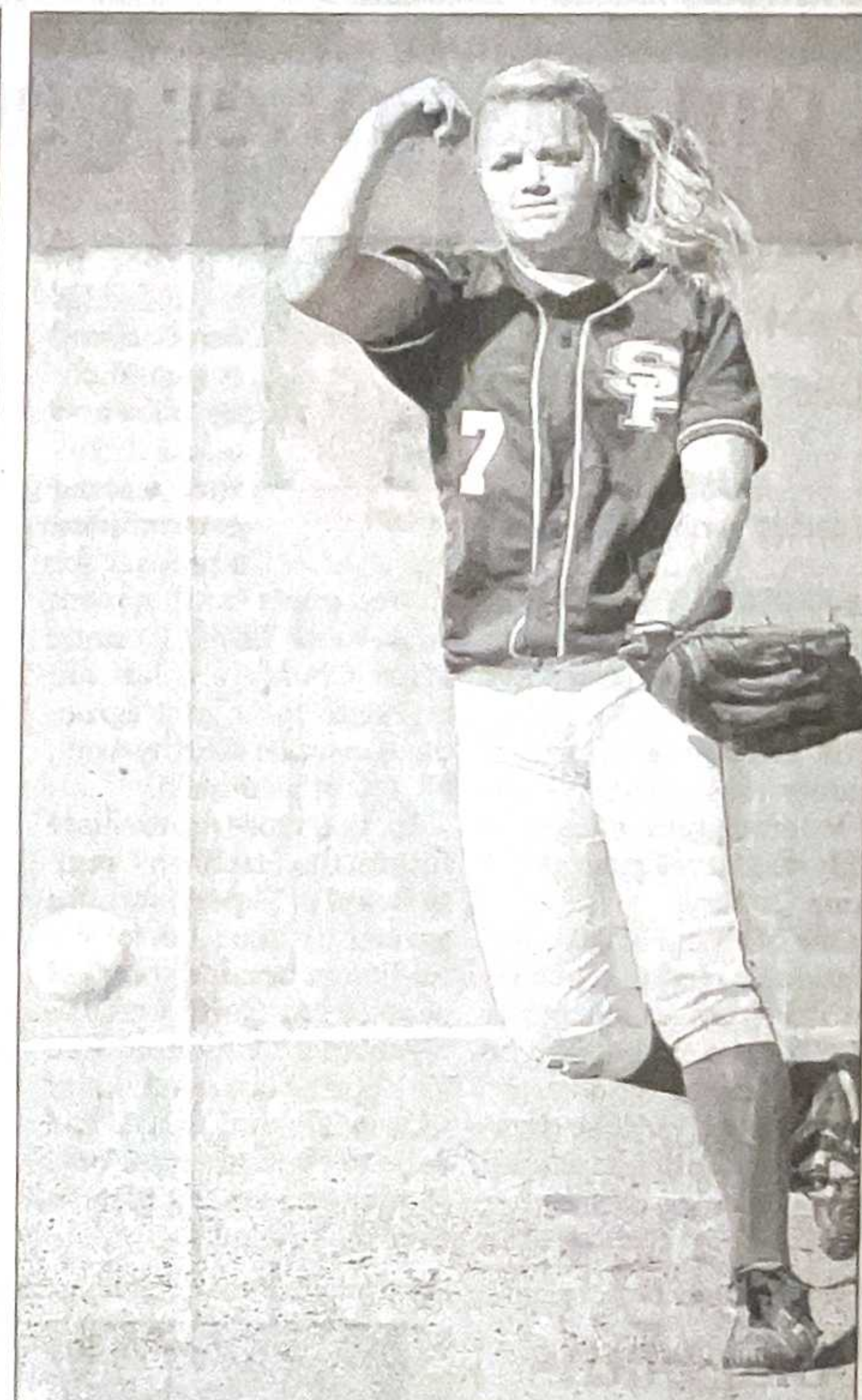
Stone High's Heather Beasley was an All-South Mississippi selection last season.

JOHN FITZHUGH/SUN HERALD



Heather Hester of Hancock is ready to emerge as one of the Coast's top pitchers.

JOHN FITZHUGH/SUN HERALD



St. Patrick pitcher Jennifer Gary will lead the Lady Irish in Class 3A competition this season.

JOHN FITZHUGH/SUN HERALD

By JAMES JONES

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The Coast graduated its most talented crop of fast-pitch softball pitchers last year.

Linsey Dickerson, Kimi Wagner, Bayleigh Babin, Megan Ladner and Presley Wesson combined for more than an amazing 3,000 career strikeouts during their prep days.

Hannah Hester (Hancock), Demi Blaker (Our Lady Academy), Heather Beasley (Stone), Tammy Webb (East Central) and Jennifer Gary (St. Patrick) are all ready to fill the shoes of the former All-South Mississippi standouts.

"We really had some great pitchers on the Coast," Long Beach coach Russ Badeaux said.

"The Coast lost some great ones."

While East Central won the 4A state title and Gulfport finished as the 5A runner-up, could a Coast team capture a state championship?

Long Beach enters the season as the Sun Herald's top-ranked team and figures to make a run at the Class 5A state title.

Alli McCaleb, who alternated with Babin last season, leads a talent-laden Lady Bearcats squad.

"We'll have one of the best teams on the Coast and the South," Badeaux said. "We only had two seniors from last year's team."

Stone, led by Beasley, figures to battle Long Beach for the 5A South State title. Picayune is another team to watch.

Preseason Top 10

1. Long Beach.
2. Harrison Central.
3. Hancock.
4. Stone.
5. Poplarville.
6. George County.
7. D'Iberville.
8. Bay High.
9. East Central.
10. Ocean Springs.

East Central, which has won six state titles, has a new coach in Kyle Long. He replaced Eric Neel, last year's Sun Herald coach of the year.

Webb went 7-0 in relief of Dickerson last season and has Long's confidence to succeed Dickerson.

Harrison Central and George County are the ear-

Players to watch

The top returning softball players on the Coast:

- Heather Beasley, pitcher, Stone
- Demi Blaker, pitcher, Our Lady Academy
- Savannah French, infielder, Long Beach
- Jennifer Gary, pitcher, St. Patrick
- Ilijah Hargrove, infielder, Harrison Central

- Heather Hester, pitcher, Hancock
- Lea Kittrell, infielder, George County
- Alli McCaleb, pitcher, Long Beach
- Jasmine Shelby, outfielder, Harrison Central
- Tammy Webb, pitcher, East Central

ly favorites to battle Oak Grove and Petal for the 6A South State title.

If the Red Rebelettes find a pitcher to compliment the hitting of Jasmine Shelby and Memphis signee Ilijah Hargrove, they will be hard to beat.

"Ilijah is the fastest kid

you'll see around," Lady Tigers coach Mindy Thees said. "She's a good ballplayer who can play infield and outfield. She can really do it all."

Biloxi and Gulfport both have inexperienced squads.

Poplarville, which won the 4A slow-pitch champi-

onship, has the parts to win a fast-pitch crown.

St. Patrick and OLA are expected to battle for the 3A South State crown, mainly because of their talented pitchers.

Gary, a sophomore, went 12-6 with 121 strikeouts and 1.39 ERA. Blaker, an eighth grader, won nine games and hit .412.

The season begins today, weather permitting, with several Classics played throughout the Coast.

In the Moss Point Classic, the Lady Tigers face George County today. The Lady Rebels meet Greene County on Saturday.

Pass Christian hosts the Frostbite Classic on Saturday, as Gautier and Perry Central square off in a round-robin format.



Sports

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SECTION C

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2010

COLUMN



James Jones
jkjones@sunherald.com

Recalling Bay High's basketball legacy

Whenever readers call or email me about an error I had in a story, I usually cringe.

In this case, I'll make an exception.

We all assumed Bay High earned its first-ever trip to the Big House after beating Northeast Lauderdale last week to win the Class 4A South State basketball title.



Taylor

That was not the case, as Burt Taylor aptly pointed out in an e-mail to the Sun Herald earlier this week.

Until last week, the Tigers made their first and only trip to the state tournament back in 1958.

Grady Perkins, Larry Favre, Gerald Doerr, Seth Crippen, and Gregory Necaise comprised the Tigers' starting lineup.

Reserves on that team were Burt Taylor, Raymond "Stacky" Strong and Gregory Necaise. Donald Caldwell coached that team.

"We only had one man over six feet tall. We couldn't slam dunk, but we could sure as hell shoot," Taylor said.

Taylor recalls Bay High winning 13 of its first 14 games that season before a mid-season slump.

The schools played in sub-district tournament before the district tournament during those times.

Harrison Central was a powerhouse in those days, thumping Bay High 88-44 to win the sub-district.

Bay High advanced to the district tournament by beating Bassfield 82-79 and reaching the South State round.

The Red Rebels beat Bay High 103-86 in the South State finals. The Tigers clinched a state tournament berth by beating Crystal Springs 55-54 on a last-second shot.

Bay High's first game at the state tournament ended as top-seeded Philadelphia rolled to a 111-70 victory.

According to Taylor, most of his former teammates are scattered throughout the country.

Perkins lives in California. Favre lives in San Antonio. Necaise lives in Florida. Taylor is not sure where Crippen lives.

Doerr (Diamondhead) and Strong (Bay St. Louis) both live in Hancock County, but Taylor rarely sees them.

The Tigers (32-3) face Center Hill in a 4A semifinal contest on Monday night at 8 at the Mississippi Coliseum.

Taylor's dream is a matchup of St. Stanislaus and Bay High in the 4A State finals on Friday night at the Mississippi Coliseum.

Mr. Taylor, the Tigers and Rockchaws will grant you that wish and play for the state title next Friday.

Sports

SECTION B

WWW.SUNHERALD.COM

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2010

Holidays helped Biloxi, St. Stanislaus turn the corner

Who knew that the 2009 Jackie Laird Basketball Tournament would have significance?

When Biloxi and St. Stanislaus squared off on Dec. 28 at the Biloxi Sports Complex, neither squad looked like a state-title team.

The Indians were coming off their first loss against Riverside, La., 72-62 at the War on the Shore, St. Stanislaus' annual holiday tournament. Two months later, Biloxi faces Starkville in the 6A semifinals on Wednesday.

St. Stanislaus was 12-3 at the time, but the young Rockachaws lacked experience and chemis-

COLUMN



James Jones

jkjones@sunherald.com

try. They were a long way from facing Pontotoc in the 4A semifinals.

Biloxi (27-2) thumped St. Stanislaus 53-27 in the tournament finals, which Indians coach Seber Windham saw the light come on for the reigning 5A champions.

"The second half of that game was the turning point for us," Windham



Ladner



Windham

said. "We had to move people around in different roles. Jeremiah Dunning went from shooting guard to point guard. Guy Payne's role changed into a major contributor."

The Rockachaws' woes continued a week longer, falling to Moss Point at HoopsFest 2010 in the Mississippi Coast Coliseum.

St. Stanislaus coach Jay Ladner called the Rockachaws "the state's worst

15-4 team."

"We won, but didn't look pretty," Ladner joked. "We lost seven seniors."

The Rockachaws eventually caught fire, sweeping Bay High during the regular season.

"For some reason, the team began to play a lot better in January," Ladner said. "They were motivated when people counted them out."

The Rockachaws (27-4) are considered by some a slight favorite to win 4A.

Ladner always has a strong connection to the Indians, who won five state championships since 1989.

"(Former Biloxi coach) Jackie Laird was one of

my favorite coaches,"

Ladner said. "I respected Seber as a player and now as a coach. He's one of the best young coaches on the Coast. I'm so proud of him."

Windham, who's won titles as a player, assistant coach and head coach, admires Ladner.

"I've always thought Jay Ladner was one of the state's top coaches along with Louis Billups of Lannier," Windham said. "I've watched how he carries himself on the sidelines. I even stole a couple of his plays."

Don't be surprised if Biloxi and St. Stanislaus win the 6A and 4A state titles, respectively.

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St. Stanislaus to play for the State 4A Basketball Championship

JACKSON, MS (WLOX) - The St. Stanislaus Rock-a-Chaws hammered Pontotoc on Monday 65-39 to qualify for the Class 4A basketball championship.

The Rocks will play the winner of the Bay St. Louis/Center Hill contests. That game tips off at 8pm.

Highlights of the St. Stanislaus semifinal victory can be seen on WLOX News at 6pm.

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PREP ROUNDUP

Scarborough, St. Stanislaus edge Long Beach

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Boomer Scarborough struck out 14 and allowed three hits as St. Stanislaus beat Long Beach 2-1 on Saturday at the St. Stanislaus Invitational.

Scarborough added two hits and an RBI. Garrett LaRosa led the Bearcats with two hits; Michael Paul took the loss.

The Rockachaws (2-0) beat St. Patrick 8-2 as Jake Lindgren was the winning pitcher, striking out five. Scarborough added two hits.

Long Beach 5, St. Patrick 1: Timmy Maloney got the victory, allowing only two hits and struck out five. Blake Duibussion had an RBI single. Hunter Frierson took the loss for the Fighting Irish (0-2).

Harrison Central 3, D'Iberville 2: Chris Wease struck out nine and allowed three hits for the Red Rebels (2-0). Brandon Hogue got the save. Brandon Keel hit a solo homer.

Biloxi 15, St. Martin 6: Micah Tompkins hit two homers as Biloxi beat St. Martin at the Harrison Central Tournament.

Hawtin Buchanan got the victory for the unbeaten Indians (2-0), striking out eight. Cody Brown had three hits. Jordan Mata and Craig Wilson both had two hits.

Hancock 9, Pkayune 8: The Hawks (2-0) were led by Kyle LiBerto, who got the win and Trevor Bennett earned the save. Hunter Seymour had two hits and three RBI.

Vancleave splits: The Bulldogs (1-1) beat Greene County 12-2 as Stewart Holmes struck out six. Zach Haarland had three hits. Greene County won game two 10-7 as Jaly Breach got the win. The Bulldogs were led by L. Atwood's three hits.

George County 8, Moss

Point 7: The Rebels overcame a 6-3 deficit, winning in eight innings.

Breland Booker had two hits and two RBI to lead the Tigers, while Keith Barkley and Kenderick Barnes each added two hits and an RBI.

Softball

Gautier 5, Pass Christian 4: Camden Graham had two hits and three RBIs, but the Lady Pirates lost in the Frostbite Classic. The Lady Pirates (1-1) beat Perry Central 10-2 as Brooke Chaffey and Caitlin Beech each had two hits.

In other Frostbite Classic games; Gautier 6, West Harrison 5; Hancock 3, West Harrison 2.

D'Iberville sweeps: The Lady Warriors (2-0) beat Hancock 4-0 and Perry Central 8-2. Tori Seymour was the winning pitcher in both games, pitching a no-hitter against Perry Center. Shay Walker had four hits.

Biloxi 4, Greene County 3: Tisa Smith had two hits to lead the Lady Indians. Pitcher Brittany Lang got the victory, striking out seven.

Long Beach sweeps: The Lady Bearcats (2-0) beat Harrison Central 2-0 in the Vancleave Tournament. Alli McCaleb got the victory and Britton Ross had two hits. Long Beach beat Vancleave 6-2 as Mattie Teague got the win. Kailee LeBlanc and Brooke Moran each had two hits.

Stone sweeps: Heather Beasley was the winning pitcher in both games for Stone (2-0), who beat Bay High 3-0 and Poplarville 4-1 at the Poplarville Tournament. Katie White and Julie Miller each had two hits in the second game.

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SunHerald

SOUTH MISSISSIPPI'S NEWSPAPER

75¢ VOL. 126, NO. 149

MONDAY, MARCH 1, 2010

WWW.SUNHERALD.COM

Bay High, SSC eye berths in 4A title game

By JAMES JONES

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Bay High and St. Stanislaus are one victory away from playing for the Class 4A state basketball championship.

Before an All-Bay St. Louis matchup can take place on Friday, the Tigers and Rockachaws must survive tough semifinal contests today at the Mississippi Coliseum.

St. Stanislaus (27-5) faces Pontotoc at 2:30 p.m., while Bay High (32-3) squares off against Centre Hill at 8 p.m..

The Tigers earned their first state tournament berth since 1958, going unbeaten in the

Division 8-4A and 4A South State tournaments.

"When I came here these kids were in the eighth grade and their lives were completely turned upside down from (Hurricane) Katrina," Bay High coach Kelton Thompson said.

"I told these kids that we would go to Jackson when they were seniors and they worked their butt off and made it. I'm so happy for these kids. This was something we worked for."

Bay High is led by guard Daron Bell, who averages 20 points, 12 rebounds and six assists a game.

CLASS 4A TO 3B



JOHN FITZHUGH/SUN HERALD

St. Stanislaus's Rocko Gandara grabs a rebound from Bay High's Daron Bell in their earlier regular-season matchup. SSC and Bay High play for berths in the Class 4A title game today in Jackson.

CLASS 4A FROM 1B

Thompson expects a tough contest from Center Hill, the 4A North State runner-up.

"Center Hill has a good team," Thompson said. "They're athletic, fundamentally sound and well coached. Everyone's good at this time of year."

Jay Ladner may have done his best coaching job at St. Stanislaus, guiding an inexperienced squad to the

Big House. He's guided the Rockachaws to eight state tournament berths.

"If you would've told me that I'd make the state tournament with this team, I wouldn't have believed you," Ladner said.

"I'm surprised that we made the state tournament. It's a testament to the kids working hard and being motivated to proving people wrong."

Ladner is not overlooking Pontotoc, the 4A North State champion.

"Pontotoc has an outstanding team," Ladner said. "We'll have our hands full with them."

The Rockachaws faced top-notch competition, falling to Moss Point and Biloxi. Bay High also beat the Rockachaws twice in the Division 8-4A and 4A South state tournaments.

"We played a tough schedule," Ladner said. "Biloxi has a good team. Moss Point was better than a lot of people thought they were. They took Forest Hill to the wire."

BASKETBALL, 1B

TIGERS, ROCKS OFF TO BIG HOUSE

Bay High, St. Stanislaus will play for berths in 4A state championship game today in Jackson.

SunHerald

SOUTH MISSISSIPPI'S NEWSPAPER

75¢ VOL. 126, NO. 150

TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 2010

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Sports

SECTION B

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TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 2010

SPORTS, 1B



BAY HIGH, SSC ADVANCE IN 4A

St. Stanislaus and Bay High both won Monday, and will meet for the 4A state basketball title.

Rockachaws rout Pontotoc

By JAMES JONES

jkjones@sunherald.com

JACKSON — Reaching the State Finals was one of the few obstacles Jay Ladner hadn't overcome during his illustrious coaching career at St. Stanislaus.

Ladner finally got over that hurdle, pounding Pontotoc 65-39 in the Class 4A State Semifinals on Monday at the Mississippi Coliseum.

The Rockachaws (28-7) will face crosstown rival Bay High in the 4A state championship game on Friday night at 8:30.

ST.
STANISLAUS

65

PONTOTOC

39

Ladner had guided the Rockachaws to eight state tournament appearances, but he'd never advanced past the semifinals.

"Before the season if you would've told me that we'd be in the state championship game, I wouldn't have believed it," Ladner said. "Our goal is to always win the state title, but this team had no returning starter coming back. They worked hard and believed in themselves."

From the opening tip, the Rockachaws' inside and outside attacks wore down the smaller Warriors (21-14).

"I was concerned about today because this team had never been to Jackson and how they would react," Ladner said.

Manuel Gandara led the Rock-

ROCKACHAWS TO 3B



JOE ELLIS/THE GLARION LEDGER

St. Stanislaus' Nick Vasquez drives past Pontotoc's Adrian Potter during THE Class 4A State Tournament semifinals at the Mississippi Coliseum in Jackson on Monday. St. Stanislaus won 65-39.

Bell, Bay work overtime to make finals



RICK GUY/THE CLARION LEDGER
Bay High's Daron Bell pushes past Center Hill's Jaquon Mullins during the 4A basketball semifinals Monday, in Jackson.

By JAMES JONES
jkjones@sunherald.com

JACKSON — A date with crosstown rival St. Stanislaus in the Class 4A state championship game awaits Bay High.

The Tigers punched their ticket to the 4A Championship Game with a 59-54 victory over Center Hill on Monday night at the Mississippi Coliseum.

Bay High (33-3) will meet St. Stanislaus in the 4A state finals on Friday night at 8:30 p.m.

"The eight day layoff from the South State finals came at the worst possible time for us," Tigers coach Kelton Thompson said. "We were on a roll. Tonight, the rustiness showed, but we found a way."

Tigers guard Daron Bell performed well on the state's biggest stage, scoring a game-

BAY HIGH

59

CENTER HILL

54

high 22 points, adding 10 rebounds, seven assists and six steals.

"It feels so great to reach the state title game," Bell said. "As a freshman four years ago, I knew we would be playing for the state title."

The Tigers appeared headed for a regulation victory, leading 50-46 with 45 seconds left, but missed free throws.

Center Hill (21-15) scored the last five points, including Kelvin Bonner's layup at the buzzer, tying the game at 51-all and forcing overtime.

Bay High, though, hit five free throws in overtime to hold off the pesky Mustangs. Devin Fearington hit three crucial free throws.

"I wasn't nervous at all,"

Fearington said. "I just went to the line like I do every-day at practice and hit free throws."

Center Hill jumped out to a 16-8 lead as Ashaad Stephens scored seven of his 12 points. The Mustangs led 16-13 after one quarter.

Bay High outscored the Mustangs 17-4 in the second quarter, grabbing a 25-18 advantage. Devon Narcisse had eight of his 16 points.

When the Mustangs wiped out a 34-28 deficit by reeling off six straight points to force a 34-all deadlock, Bell took control.

The senior drilled a three point shot as the third quarter ended, giving the Tigers a 37-34 lead.

The 4A semifinal contest went back and forth in the final period, setting up overtime and a Bay High

BAY TO 3B

ROCKACHAWS FROM 1B

achaws' balanced attack with 17 points and 14 rebounds.

"We got some big 3's and drove to the basket," Gandara said. "Pontotoc was hesitant to drive inside on us."

The Rockachaws expanded their 10-8 first quarter lead to 20-10. Jonathan Romain scored seven of his 11 points during a 10-0 zip run that allowed St. Stanislaus to coast the rest of the quarter.

St. Stanislaus continued its edge throughout the second quarter, en route to a 30-16 halftime advantage. Will Reid hit two treys.

"We struggled early in the season, but put our individual differences aside to play team ball," Romain said.

The Warriors tried to shoot their way back into

the contest in the third quarter. Consecutive treys from Griffin McCormick and Andrew Bell closed the gap to 37-25 midway through the third.

Just as Pontotoc gained confidence, 6-foot-7 Johnny Zuppardo stuffed the Warriors' hopes for a comeback with a slam dunk and blocked shot.

Reid followed with a trey as the Rockachaws led 50-30 after three quarters.

"We had stressed getting back on transition defense," Zuppardo said. "Pontotoc had great 3-point shooters."

The Warriors were led by Josh Green's 17 points.

"SSC's size gave us problems; they were the biggest team we've faced this year," Pontotoc coach Jon Ginn said. "Ladner's a well prepared coach. My hat's off to them. They played a great game."

BAY FROM 1B

victory.

"We made history tonight," Narcisse said. "We'll find out on Friday who's the state champions."

St. Stanislaus and Bay

High have played four times this year, with each winning twice.

The Rockachaws won the first, while Bay High took the last two.

"They might as well play this game back at the Bay," Thompson said.

PREP ROUNDUP

Baseball events take the spotlight

STAFF REPORTS

Two major early season baseball tournaments continue today — the Ronnie Hebert Tournament and the D'Iberville Tournament.

In today's Ronnie Hebert Tournament, state power Sumrall visits Gulfport at 7 p.m. while Long Beach hosts Picayune at 7 p.m.

The tournament continues Friday with state power Tupelo at Gulfport at 7 p.m. and Ridgeland at Long Beach at 7 p.m. The tournament concludes Saturday at Gulfport High School with four varsity games, starting at 11 a.m.

The D'Iberville Tournament today pits Moss Point against Biloxi at 5 p.m. and Harrison Central vs. George County at 7:30 p.m.

Friday's action is St. Martin-Ocean Springs at 5 p.m. and West Harrison-Pascagoula at 7:30 p.m. The tournament wraps up with four varsity games Saturday, starting at 9 a.m.

Biloxi 6, West Harrison 3: Cody Brown slammed two home runs among his three hits as Biloxi (3-0) won in the D'Iberville Tournament on Wednesday. Colin Misko added two hits. Jordan Mata (1-0) was the winning pitcher, striking out four.

Taylor Wells and Jona-

thon Parker each had two hits for West Harrison.

St. Stanislaus 13, Pearl River Central 2: Boomer Scarborough hit a three-run homer and Justin Vaughn tossed a two-hitter in the win.

Krisjon Wilkerson and Jacob Lindgren each had three hits for SSC while Lawrence Bourgeois hit a home run.

Gulfport 6, Long Beach 2: Justin Rose struck out three on the mound and added a home run and a double at the plate to lift Gulfport to the win.

Jonathan Holder added a home run and Jovan Thigpen had a triple for the Admirals (3-0).

Pascagoula 11, Moss Point 2: Matt Cobb (1-0) struck out seven and collected two hits to pace the Panthers to the win. Daniel Mills had three RBIs, including a solo home run and Chris Nyman added two doubles for the Panthers.

Golf

Biloxi beats St. Patrick: The Lady Indians beat the Lady Irish in a 9-hole match at Sunkist County Club Wednesday. Biloxi, which shot 142, was led by Lauren Durbin with a score of 42. The Lady Irish finished with a 162.

SunHerald

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Baysketball

Neighbors face off in state championship



JOHN FITZHUGH/SUN HERALD

St. Stanislaus' Anthony Boswell tries to steal the ball from Bay High's Daron Bell during the second quarter of their game at Bay High in January.

Sports

SECTION D

WWW.SUNHERALD.COM

FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 2010

CLASS 4A BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

THE BATTLE OF THE BAY

City rivals St. Stanislaus, Bay High meet for bragging rights
and more importantly a state championship

By JAMES JONES

jkjones@sunherald.com

JACKSON — The city of Bay St. Louis will be home to the Class 4A state basketball champion regardless of the outcome of tonight's championship game.

St. Stanislaus College and Bay High, both located in Bay St. Louis, battle for the 4A state title as well as bragging rights tonight at the Mississippi Coliseum, where many Bay St. Louis residents will be present to witness the historic event.



Ladner

The two teams split their four games this season. The Rockachaws (26-7) won the first two games. Bay High (33-3) emerged victorious in the Division 8-4A Tournament and 4A South State Finals.



Thompson

"This is great for our community."

St. Stanislaus coach Jay Ladner is pleased that the 4A crown comes down to the Rockachaws and Tigers.

"It's a very unique thing," Ladner said. "Bay St. Louis is a small town that was devastated by Hurricane Katrina. We went to Mass on Sunday and we saw a lot of the kids that play at Bay High. The priest welcomed both schools."

Bay High coach Kelton Thompson has a huge connection to St. Stanislaus. He played on Ladner's first tournament team in 1996 and was an assistant coach un-

Game plan

Who: St. Stanislaus (26-7) vs. Bay High (33-3)

What: Class 4A state basketball championship

When: Today, 8:30 p.m.

Where: Mississippi Coliseum, Jackson

TV: Mississippi Public Broadcasting

der Ladner.

"I've spent more time in their gym than I have in ours," Thompson said. "The schools are fierce rivals."

"I've seen it as a player over there and a coach over here. We know a whole lot about each other."

The Tigers and Rockachaw players each have different views on their winner-take-all showdown.

"It's just another game with the state championship at stake," Bay High guard Devin Farrington said.

According to St. Stanislaus forward Johnny Zuppardo, the Rockachaws were banged up in their last two games against Bay High.

"We wanted another shot at them," Zuppardo said. "The last time we played them, we weren't 100 percent."

Bay High guard Daron Bell, who averaged 20 points a game, didn't have to watch film or get a scouting report of St. Stanislaus.

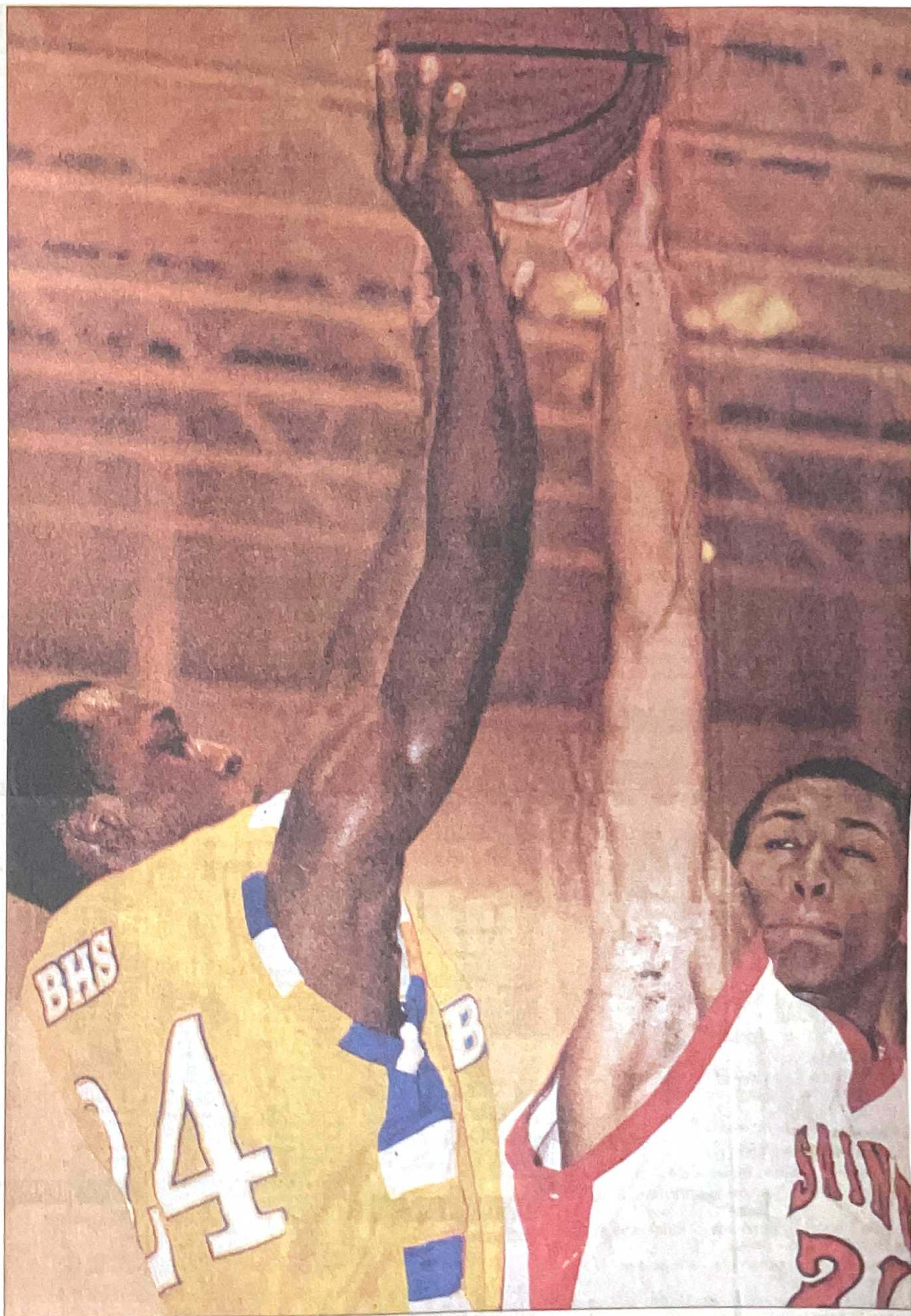
"We all know about each other," Bell said. "It will come down to who's the better team tonight."

St. Stanislaus Athletic Director Stace McRaney hopes a third title will be added to the school's trophy case. The Rockachaws won 4A titles in football and soccer.

"This has been a special year at St. Stanislaus," McRaney said. "All of our coaches and players have worked hard."

"This says a lot about the basketball programs at Bay High and St. Stanislaus."

Will Seymour, Bay High athletic director



JOHN FITZHUGH/SUN HERALD

Bay High's Demitry Johnson puts up a shot against St. Stanislaus' Jonathan Romain during the second quarter of their game at St. Stanislaus in December. The teams play today in Jackson for the Class 4A state championship.

BUSINESS REBOUNDS: Copiah County food processor adds 300-plus jobs, 6B

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2010 MHSAA State Championships

ALL GAMES AT THE MISSISSIPPI COLISEUM IN JACKSON

THURSDAY'S CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES

CLASS 1A GIRLS		CLASS 1A BOYS		CLASS 2A GIRLS		CLASS 2A BOYS	
McAdams	78	Ingomar	72	Newton	77	West Bolivar	51
Myrtle	68	McAdams	60	New Site	73	Baldwyn	49

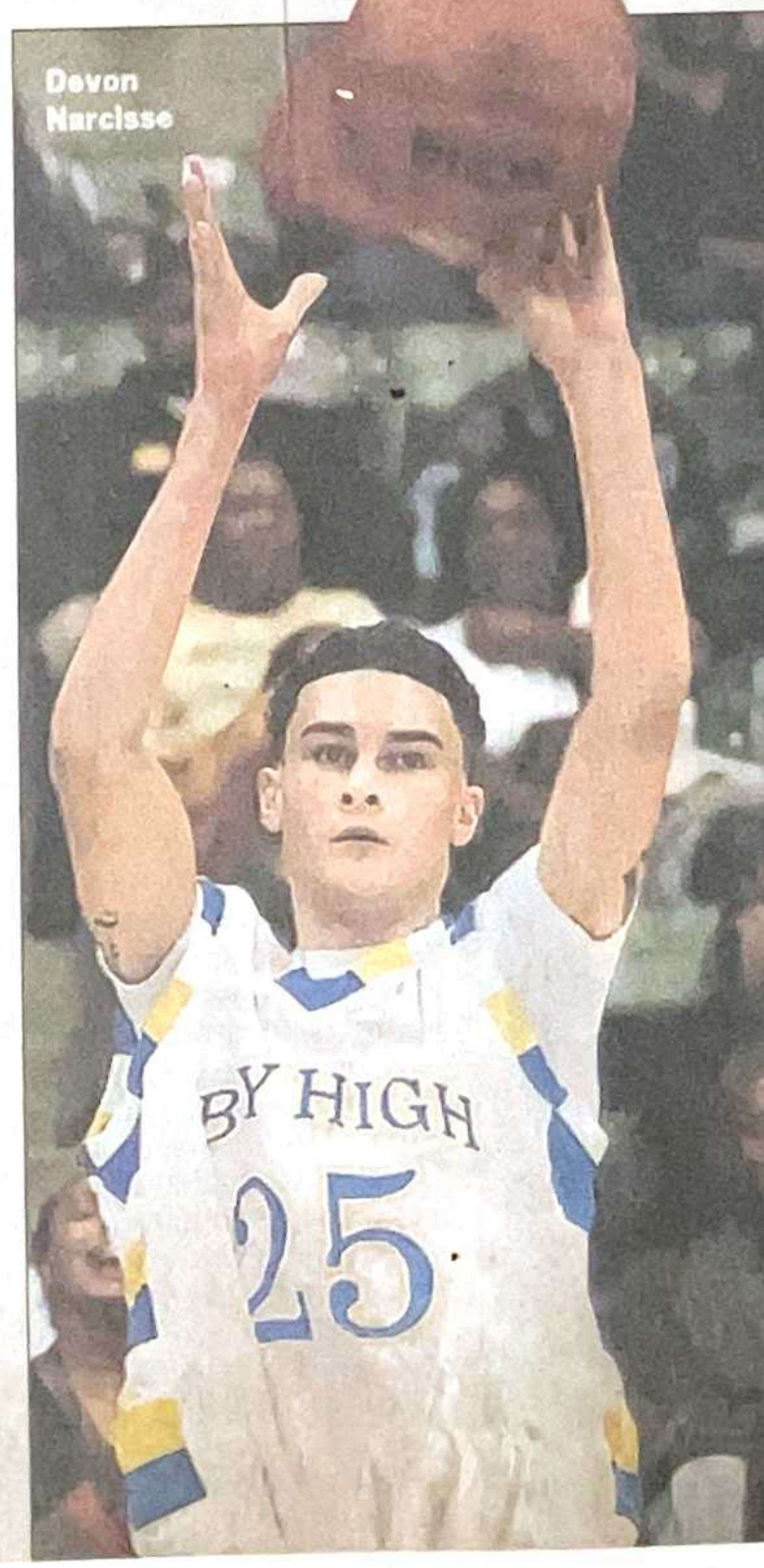
TODAY'S CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES

 TV: Mississippi Public Broadcasting

- 3A GIRLS: Belmont vs. Ripley, 1 p.m.
- 3A BOYS: Forest vs. Kemper County, 2:30 p.m.
- 4A GIRLS: New Albany vs. Raymond, 7 p.m.
- 4A BOYS: Bay High vs. St. Stanislaus, 8:30 p.m.

COMPLETE COVERAGE, PAGES 1C, 6C

BAY BATTLE IN JACKSON



ST. STANISLAUS**vs.****BAY HIGH**

Title game helps lift up rebuilding city

BAY ST. LOUIS — More than four years ago, neither St. Stanislaus nor crosstown rival Bay High had gymnasiums in which to play or practice. Tonight, at the Mississippi Coliseum in Jackson, they will play one another for the Mississippi High School Activities Association Class 4A boys basketball state championship.

Regardless of which team wins, the victor will bring back its first gold ball championship trophy to this historic, quaint Gulf Coast vil-

lage, most of which was blown away or flooded by Hurricane Katrina in August 2005.

"No matter what happens, Bay St. Louis can't lose," Les Fillingame, the town's mayor, said on a gloriously sunny Thursday in this town, which is still rebuilding from the largest natural disaster in U.S. history.



Rick
Cleveland

"We can all learn lessons from the resilience of youth," Fillingame said. "The spirit of our kids is just phenomenal."

This story, one much bigger than basketball, has so many layers you could write a book about it. Start with the two coaches.

Jay Ladner, a coach's son, is 44 and in his 19th year at St. Stanislaus. Ladner has been like a second father to fourth-year Bay High coach Kelton Thompson, 31, who

See **RIVALRY**, 10A



Pat Sullivan / Special to The Clarion-Ledger

Coaches Jay Ladner of St. Stanislaus (left) and Kelton Thompson of Bay High (right) chat with Bay St. Louis Mayor Les Fill-

ingame in front of the rebuilt Bay Bridge. Fillingame plans a parade for both teams regardless of which wins tonight.

Rivalry: Whole community proud

From 1A

played point guard for Ladner at St. Stanislaus and then served as an assistant coach for him there.

"I can't begin to tell you how much influence (Ladner) has had on me," Thompson says. "He's a huge part of who I've become. He's like family."

Ladner, who lives in neighboring Pass Christian, remembers that two days after Katrina, he was trying to salvage what was left of his house when Thompson showed up.

"I had two of my former players staying with me because they had nowhere else to go," Ladner says. "We were gutting my house. Kelton came by to check on me and he just pitched right in. Stayed for the next two weeks working. We slept on mattresses in my driveway."

When they were finished gutting the house, Ladner and his family moved in with Thompson at his house, which suffered minimal damage, in nearby Diamondhead.

The two coaches share common traits. Says Richard Williams, the former Mississippi State University coach and a close friend of Ladner's: "Jay is the most soft-spoken, nicest guy in the world, a great coach. But remember this about him. As nice as he seems, he's so competitive he would cut your heart out to win a game."

Says Ladner of Thompson, his former point guard: "The toughest, most competitive player I've had in all my years of coaching. He played his entire senior year with a broken knee cap. He limped instead of ran, but he played the entire season, and it was the first season in 52 years St. Stanislaus made the state tournament. If there was a loose ball that year, he got it."

High, the city will be bigger and better than ever.

Thompson's first team won six and lost 24. His next finished 17-17. Then came 19-12. This season, the Bay High Tigers have won 33 and lost only 3. Two of the defeats were to St. Stanislaus. The teams have split four games, with St. Stanislaus (28-7) winning the first two, and Bay High the last two, in the District and South State finals.

Thompson played at William Carey University, where he earned his MBA. He never planned to coach until Ladner and Hingle offered him a job. When Katrina hit and the future of St. Stanislaus was in jeopardy, Thompson began working for Ashbrite Inc., cleaning up the Gulf Coast. He rose through the ranks there and was making \$3,000 a week when St. Stanislaus reopened and Ladner offered him his old job back at considerably less pay.

"I knew the debris removal was just a phase," Thompson says. "Coaching basketball was my passion."

80% returned

Fillingame says Bay St. Louis, at about 9,000 residents, is back to 80 percent of its pre-Katrina population.

"It's been slow and steady," he says. "Some businesses are just coming back."

The next step is replacing the sea wall along Beach Boulevard, a \$30 million-plus project.

Buzz Olsen, the town's

director of planning and development, says the athletic successes of St. Stanislaus, which already has won this season's MHSAA Class 4A football and boys soccer championships, and now Bay High, have lifted the entire town's spirit.

"It's a big deal when you think of where this town and where these two schools were less than five years ago," Olsen says. "We celebrate every street re-opening or every business opening, but the whole community has a piece of this action. Everybody here either went to Bay High or St. Stanislaus or has children there. It's a source of town pride and it's taken the focus off all the bad stuff."

So this would seem a classic case of the old sports axiom: "It's a shame somebody has to lose."

But somebody does.

"I don't want to lose — I hate losing, period," Ladner says. "But if I had to lose, I have to say I'd rather it be to Kelton than anyone."

Fillingame, who graduated from Bay High but whose son



Special to The Clarion-Ledger

The St. Stanislaus gym on the Gulf Coast was flooded by Hurricane Katrina in August 2005.

graduated from St. Stanislaus, already has a plan. No matter who wins — and loses — both teams will be celebrated by a parade right down Main Street and the rebuilt Beach Boulevard.

Reach Rick Cleveland at rcleveland@clarionledger.com.

Jellyfish on floor

St. Stanislaus, a 156-year-old Catholic boarding school, is located on Beach Boulevard, overlooking the Gulf. The campus, which includes dormitories, suffered more than \$20 million in damage from Katrina. The gymnasium was flooded with 7 feet of seawater. When the water receded, hundreds of thousands of jellyfish and shrimp were left behind.

"You couldn't take a step without stepping on a jellyfish," says Brother Ronald Hingle, the school's president, whose own adjacent housing simply floated away.

Little more than a mile inland — and across U.S. 90 — Bay High's gymnasium also was flooded and was left with a three-foot buckle through the middle of the hardwood floor.

That was Thompson's last year as an assistant to Ladner at St. Stanislaus. He took over at Bay High the next season.

"I wasn't sure if I was ready, but Jay said I was," Thompson says.

Bay High players had dispersed all over the South, to relatives' homes in Birmingham, Atlanta, Houston, Texas, Jackson and many points in between. Nearly all since have come back.

If Bay St. Louis rebuilds as well as Thompson has at Bay

2010 MHSAA State Championships

ALL GAMES AT THE MISSISSIPPI COLISEUM IN JACKSON TV: Mississippi Public Broadcasting

FRIDAY'S CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES

- 3A GIRLS: Belmont 60, Ripley 55 (OT)
- 3A BOYS: Forest 58, Kemper County 57
- 4A GIRLS: Raymond 64, New Albany 58
- 4A BOYS: Bay High 51, St. Stanislaus 39

TODAY'S CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES

- 5A GIRLS: Wayne County vs. West Jones, 1 p.m.
- 5A BOYS: Callaway vs. Provine, 2:30 p.m.
- 6A GIRLS: Horn Lake vs. Greenville, 7 p.m.
- 6A BOYS: Meridian vs. Starkville, 8:30 p.m.



The Raymond girls won their 2nd straight state title and denied New Albany's quest for a perfect season in Friday's 4A championship game.

COMPLETE COVERAGE, 1C, 3C

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NASCAR

Jeff Gordon believes the Sprint Cup series needs some rivalries to stir things up. 2C

SPORTS EDITOR: RUSTY HAMPTON, (601) 961-7293

Sports

SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 2010

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HIGH SCHOOLS — 3
NFL — 5
SCOREBOARD — 6

C

Friday's other games

Boys

4A: Bay 51, St. Stanislaus 39
Tigers turn tables on Rock-a-chaws with 32 points in the fourth quarter to overcome deficit, win first-ever state championship, 3C



MHSAA BASKETBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Through Today ■ Mississippi Coliseum ■ Tickets: \$10

4A Boys: Bay High 51, St. Stanislaus 39

Bell, Tigers reign

■ Bay High's frantic fourth-quarter comeback against rival leads to first state title

By Todd Kelly
tkelly@clarionledger.com

Bay High spent three quarters Friday night struggling to stay near St. Stanislaus in the Class 4A title game.

Turns out it was all a setup for the most unforgettable 8 minutes in the history of the school's boys basketball team.

Trailing by seven points entering the fourth quarter, the Tigers roared past their archrival for a 51-39 victory in one of the most stunning comebacks in the State Tournament's four decades at Mississippi Coliseum.

It was the first gold ball in Bay High history, coming 52 years after the program's only previous trip to Boys State.

That it came against a school located a 5-minute drive across town in Bay St. Louis ... well, that wasn't quite the big deal everyone thought, insisted Bay High coach Kelton Thompson, a point guard for Stanislaus coach Jay Ladner on that school's first team to reach the Big House in 1996.

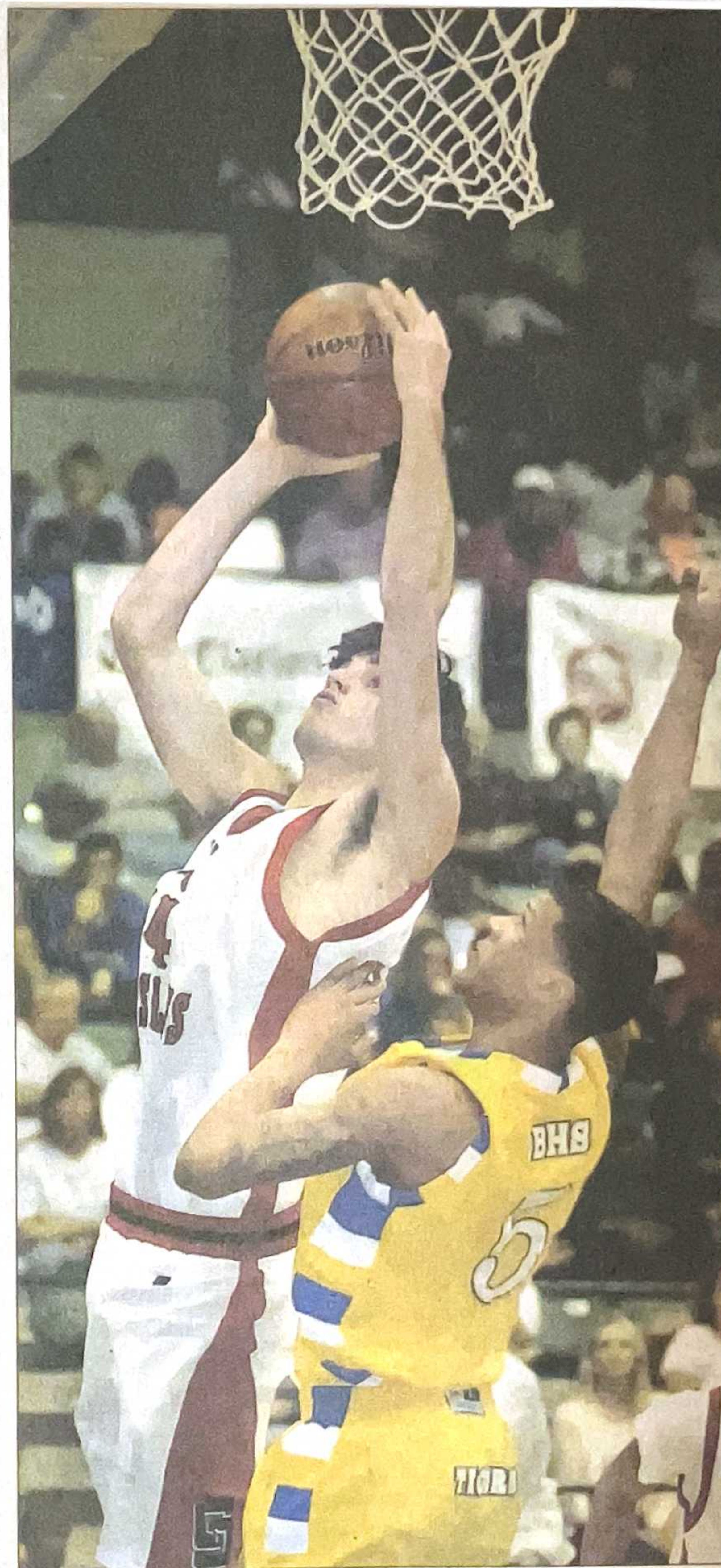
"A lot has been made of my relationship with Jay and Stanislaus," said Thompson, whose team advanced to next week's MHSAA Grand Slam to play 3A champion Forest here Thursday. "It's something I wouldn't trade for anything, but all the credit and media attention needs to go to these kids. This was a group that was 6-24 as ninth-graders (at a school) with no basketball tradition whatsoever. Through hard work and dedication and belief they won a state championship tonight."

That the Tigers were celebrating afterward seemed the unlikeliest of conclusions after Bay High struggled to score just 19 points through the first three quarters.

Still, Bay High star Daron Bell never lost faith his team would regroup and beat Stanislaus for a third consecutive time in the playoffs.

"We knew our defense would pick up in the fourth quarter because we wanted the game so bad," said Bell, who finished with a game-high 21 points. "I would've rather have played Stanislaus in the final because we know their shooters and everything they do."

Thompson was just glad to see Bay's



Rick Guy/The Clarion-Ledger

St. Stanislaus' Manuel Gandara goes up for the shot over Bay High's Daron Bell (who had 21 points) during the Class 4A state championship game on Friday.

32-point outburst in a fourth quarter that got increasingly combative in a game that included three technical and several intentional fouls, including a flagrant by the Rock-a-chaws as Bell drove to the basket in the final seconds.

"We started pressing a little bit to speed up the pace and the tempo, started trapping in the halfcourt, which is something we don't normally do," Thompson said. "You're playing for a state championship. It was two teams that were taught to play hard and taught to be tough kids. That's to be expected."

The Tigers, ranked No. 3 in 4A by

The Clarion-Ledger, improved to 34-3. The Rock-a-chaws, seeking their first state title, ended 28-8.

"It's tough," said Ladner, who's led SSC to the Big House eight times. "It's a fierce rival of (our) school. To be up seven going into the fourth quarter and let it get away from us is tough. But I accept responsibility. I didn't do a good enough job getting us ready."

"I thought we played really great defensively for three quarters, but it got away from us. Our inexperience showed a little bit there. But Bay High has a good team and they made a good run."

Tigers win Bay day

Bay High defeats rival SSC to rule Class 4A



TIM ISBELL/SUN HERALD

The Bay High Tigers touch their Class 4A championship trophy after defeating St. Stanislaus.

By JAMES JONES

jkjones@sunherald.com

JACKSON — Bay High boys basketball coach Kelton Thompson was uncomfortable facing his former team for the Class 4A state championship.

Thompson eventually put those feelings aside on Friday night as the Tigers beat St. Stanislaus 51-39 to win the state title before an estimated crowd of 5,000 at the Mississippi Coliseum.

Guard Daron Bell scored 21 points and grabbed eight rebounds to lead Bay High (34-3), which overcame a 10-point third-quarter deficit.

Thompson finished his Rockachaw career in 1996

Inside

For more on the championship game, **1C**

at the state tournament and spent several seasons as an assistant under St. Stanislaus coach Jay Ladner.

"The media made a big deal out of my past relationship at St. Stanislaus," Thompson said. "The credit should go to these kids. They worked hard, made plays and deserve the credit for winning a state title."

Bay High's last appearance at the state tournament came in 1958, but the Tigers made the most of their opportunity Friday night.

The rare matchup of Coast teams playing for the state



TIM ISBELL/SUN HERALD

Coach Kelton Thompson of Bay High and Coach Jay Ladner of St. Stanislaus discuss a hard foul at the end of their teams' championship clash Friday.

championship last occurred in 2002, when Gulfport defeated Harrison Central for the 5A state crown.



WEB EXTRA

See more photos from the title game at sunherald.com

TIGERS TAKE THE FIFTH

Bay High wins game No. 5 against St. Stanislaus this season and the Class 4A state basketball championship

By JAMES JONES

jkjones@sunherald.com

JACKSON — For three quarters, Bay High's hopes of winning its first-ever state basketball championship appeared in serious jeopardy.

The Tigers exploded for 32 fourth quarter points to defeat St. Stanislaus 51-39 in the Class 4A state championship game on Friday night at the Mississippi Coliseum.

Bay High (34-3) trailed 26-16 late in the third quarter, until guard Daron Bell ignited a game-changing 15-0 run.

Bell had nine points during the run, which the Tigers led 31-26 and were on their way to winning a state title.

"St. Stanislaus controlled the tempo for three quarters and that slowed us down," Tigers coach Kelton Thompson said. "We did a lot of things that also slowed us down. All we needed to do was make a couple of plays."

The Rockachaws (28-8) never recovered, missing 14 of their first 15 shots in the fourth quarter. St. Stanislaus scored only 13 in its ice-cold, fourth-quarter performance.

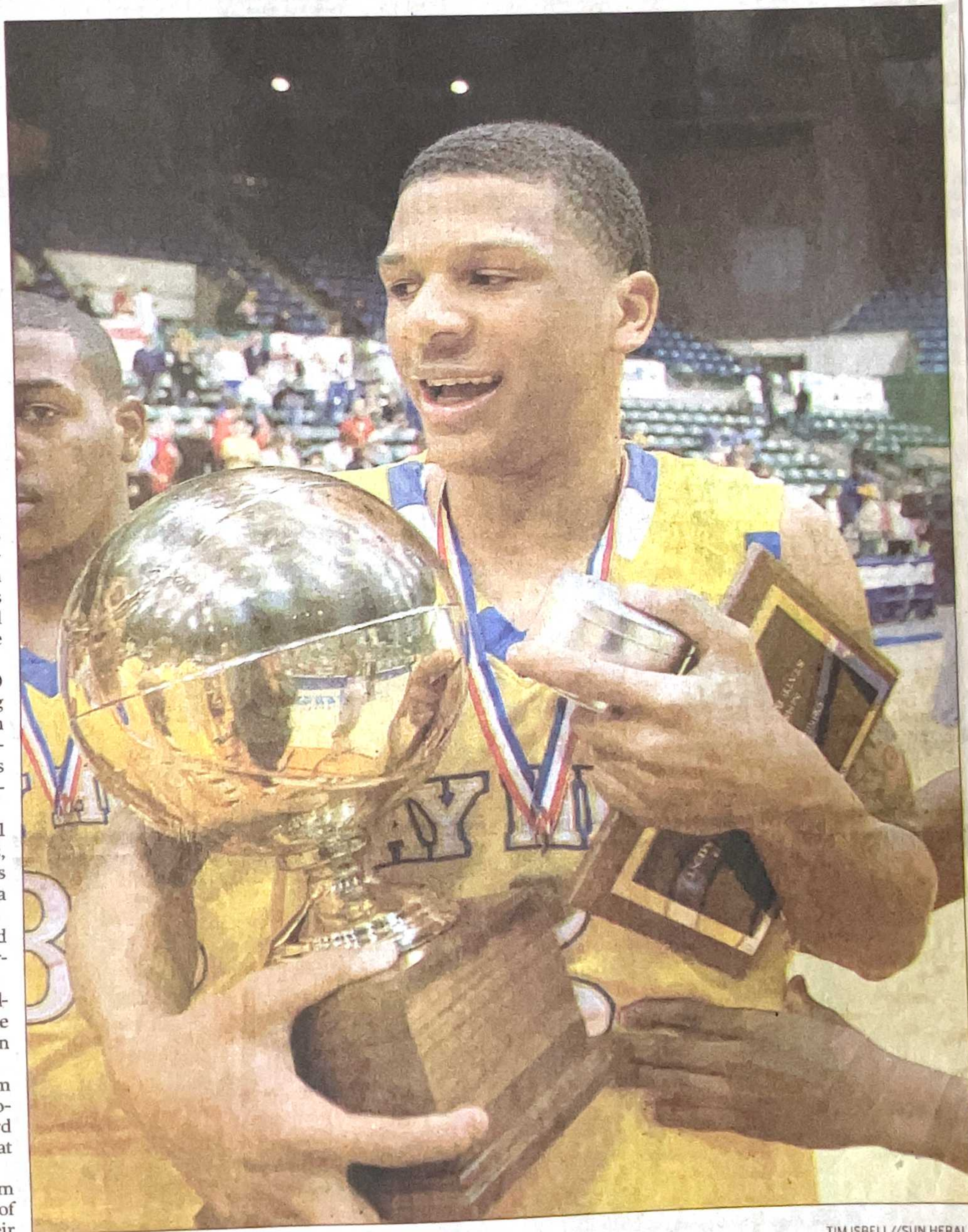
Bell, who finished with 21 points and seven rebounds, always believed the Tigers would eventually make a comeback.

"We knew that we would come back in the fourth quarter," Bell said.

St. Stanislaus coach Jay Ladner made no excuses for the Rockachaws' performance in the Battle of the Bay.

"The game got away from us," Ladner said. "Their momentum turned in the third quarter when Bell hit that 3-pointer."

Bell had plenty of help from the Tigers, who won three of five meetings against their biggest rivals this season.



TIM ISBELL/SUN HERALD

Bay High's Daron Bell carries the Class 4A state championship trophy after the Tigers defeated crosstown rival St. Stanislaus for the title Friday.

TIGERS TO 4C



WEB EXTRA | For more photos from Friday's game, visit sunherald.com

SSC 39



BAY HIGH 51

Sports

SECTION C

WWW.SUNHERALD.COM

SUNDAY, MARCH 7, 2010



TIM ISBELL/SUN HERALD

The celebration begins for Coach Kelton Thompson and his Bay High Tigers as the final seconds tick off the clock Friday night. Bay High defeated St. Stanislaus 51-39 for the Class 4A title.

A SOLID FOUNDATION

Bay High basketball coach Kelton Thompson has program on sturdy ground after winning the Class 4A state title

By JAMES JONES

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JACKSON — Coach Kelton Thompson wants to build a championship basketball legacy at Bay High.

The Tigers (34-3) may be headed toward that goal after beating St. Stanislaus 51-39 in the Class 4A state finals on Friday at the Mississippi Coliseum.

Thompson's goal is to build the Tigers into a program like Coast schools Biloxi, Gulfport, and Harrison Central, who have each won multiple championships on the basketball court.

The Tiger Dome will soon have a boys championship banner hanging alongside the ones of the girls' state title squads of 2003 and 2005 won by coach Debbie Triplett.

When Thompson became the Tigers' coach four years ago, the freshmen class — led by Daron Bell, Demitry Johnson, Devin Fearington and Devon Narcisse — went 6-24. They improved each year until capturing the state championship.

"I took the job at Bay High because they said you couldn't win there," Thompson said. "I liked the challenge.



TIM ISBELL/SUN HERALD

Bay High fans celebrate their 51-39 victory over St. Stanislaus Friday night for the Class 4A state title.

"The goal was to build a basketball program at Bay High. They didn't have tradition."

Thompson, a former St. Stanislaus player and assistant coach, credited the players.

"It's a testament that hard work pays off," Thompson said. "The credit should go to the kids. They put in the time, effort and believed we could win."

"They went through the low point of losing and high point of winning a state title."

Johnson, one of six Bay High seniors, took the ad-

vice of their coach.

"Our hard work paid off," Johnson said. "We put a lot of time and effort toward winning this championship."

Bell, a leading candidate for the Sun Herald's Player of the Year this season, praised Thompson's scouting report of the Rockachaws.

"Coach Thompson knew all about St. Stanislaus and who their best players were," Bell said. "That helped us out a lot."

Motivation was also a huge factor for Bay High, who had been considered a slight underdog against its biggest

Game plan

Who: Bay High (4A champion) vs. Forest (3A champion)

When: Thursday, 8:30 p.m.

Where: Mississippi Coliseum, Jackson

rival.

That was especially true for Bell, who scored 21 points and grabbed seven rebounds Friday, as the Tigers beat the Rockachaws for the third time this season.

"Everyone picked St. Stanislaus to win and that motivated us to prove everyone wrong," Bell said. "What a great way to cap my senior season at Bay High. Winning a state title."

St. Stanislaus coach Jay Ladner credited the Tigers and his former player. The Tigers overcame a 10-point third quarter deficit.

"Our inexperienced showed," Ladner said. "But Bay has a good team and they made a good run."

Bay High plays 3A state champion Forest in the Grand Slam Tournament on Thursday at 8:30 p.m. at the Mississippi Coliseum.

SunHerald

SOUTH MISSISSIPPI'S NEWSPAPER

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ALL-STAR POWER

Coast standouts selected to postseason basketball games

By JAMES JONES

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The Coast will have a strong showing at the Mississippi-Alabama All-Star Basketball Games on March 19 in Pelham, Ala.

Harrison Central twins Niesha and Nitesha Pierce will play for the Mississippi girls squad.

St. Stanislaus' Jay Ladner will coach the Mississippi All-Stars and will be assisted by Danny Grieves of St. Patrick.

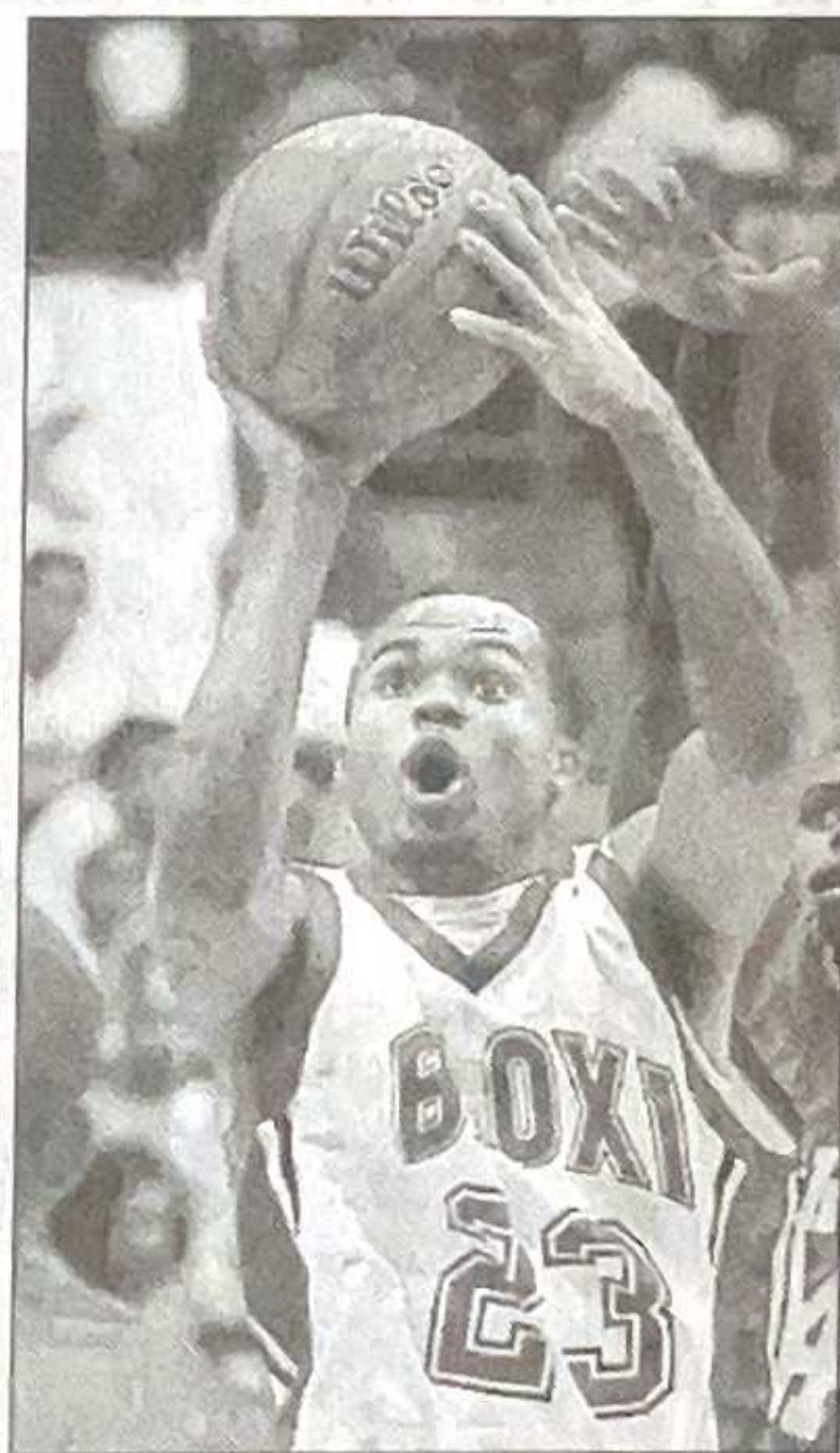
Biloxi guard Jeremiah Dunning is the only Coast player on the Mississippi boys roster.

Donny Fuller of Gulfport is an administrative coach for the Mississippi girls team.

Rosters for the junior games, which will be played on July 10 at Mississippi College, were also picked.

Pass Christian's Buddy Kennedy was picked as one of the coaches on the South squad.

Stanley Magee (Pass Christian), Johnny Zuppardo (St. Stanislaus), Daniel Grieves (St. Patrick), Bryan Williams (Pas-



TIM ISBELL/THE SUN HERALD

Biloxi's Jeremiah Dunning.

cagoula) are on the South roster.

Three girls players were picked to the South roster: Callie McNally (OLA), Arianne Ausmer (Pass Christian) and Daiquari Raine (Poplarville).

Mississippi vs. Alabama

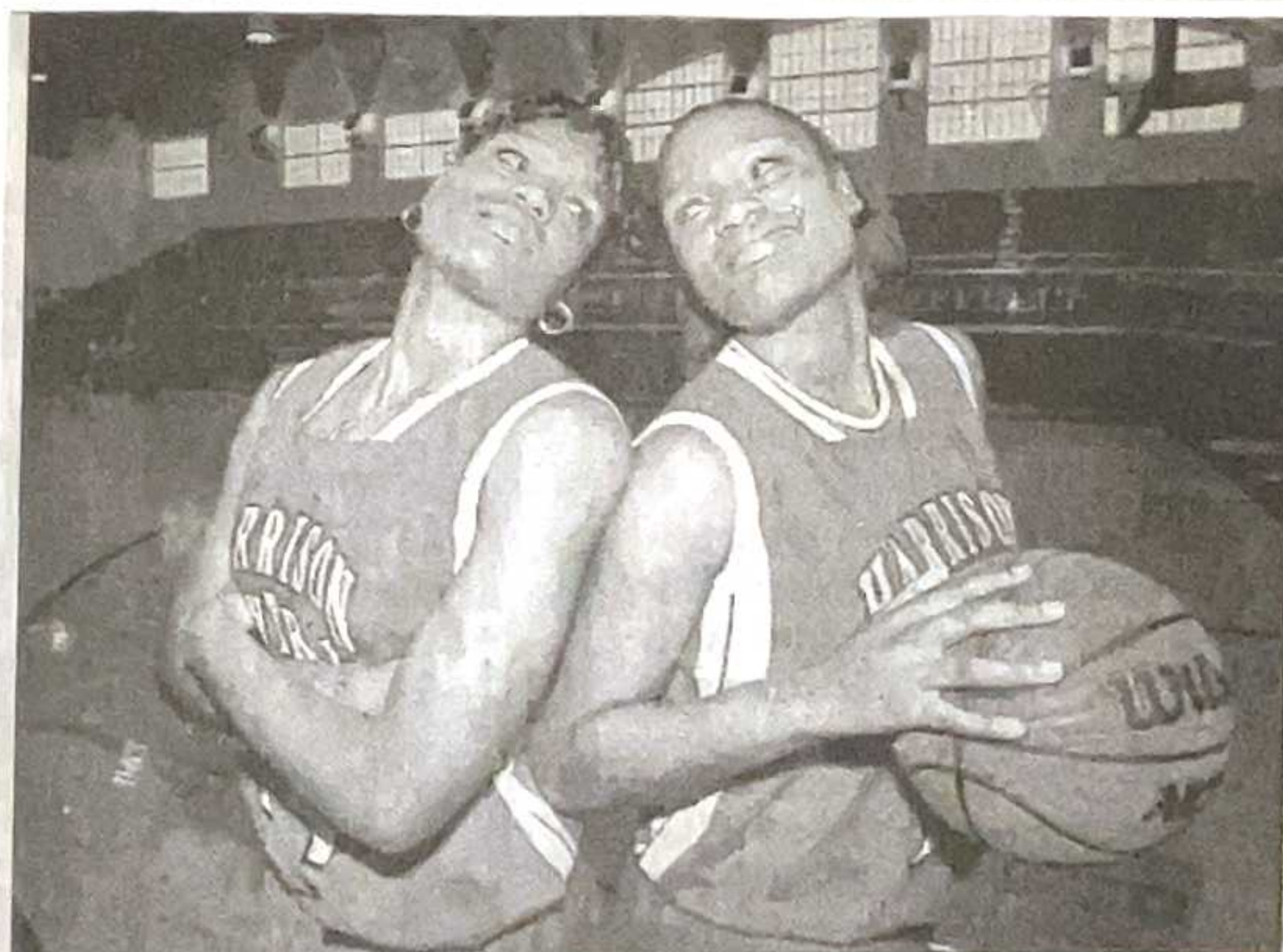
Rosters for the Mississippi/Alabama All-Star Games:

Mississippi boys

Jalen Courtney, 6-7, Provine (LSU)
Demarco Cox, 6-8, Yazoo City (Ole Miss)
Jeremiah Dunning, 5-10, Biloxi
Kelsey Howard, 6-4, Vicksburg
Treny Jackson, 6-2, Wingfield (USM)
DeMarcus Lewis, 6-3, Canton
Dundreous Nelson, 5-11, Murrah (Ole Miss)
Jeverik Nelson, 6-7, Callaway
Rashad Perkins, 6-5, Starkville (USM)
Willie Readus, 6-6, Morton
Edward Townsel, 6-0, Starkville
Andre Stringer, 5-8, Forest Hill (LSU)

Mississippi girls

Janairrika Bland, Raymond, 6-3
Keosha Bradley, Natchez, 5-7
Kelcia Bufkin, Scott Central, 5-6
Jenisha Jackson, North Panola, 6-3
Norianna Haynes, NE Lauderdale, 5-10
Amber Jackson, Tupelo, 5-9
Breanna Lewis, Greenville, 5-7
Chasity Kearney, South Panola, 5-10
Valencia McFarland, Raymond, 5-5
Niesha Pierce, Harrison Central, 5-9
Nitesha Pierce, Harrison Central, 5-9
Antonekia Williams, Clinton, 5-3



TIM ISBELL/SUN HERALD

Niesha Pierce and Nitesha Pierce were picked to play in the Mississippi-Alabama Girls' All-Star Basketball game.

Sports

SECTION C

WWW.SUNHERALD.COM

SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 2010

2009-10 SUN HERALD ALL-SOUTH MISSISSIPPI BOYS SOCCER TEAM

GETTING THEIR KICKS

Gulfport, St. Stanislaus highlight annual soccer squad



TIM ISBELL/SUN HERALD

The 2009-10 Sun Herald boys soccer team are front row, left to right, Philip Prieur, Michael Dye, Taylor Pontius, Jarred Arde. Second row: Kabe Sears, Dallas Mansfield, Josh Davis, Scott Pepperman, Justin Rose and Evan Ladner.

Gulfport and St. Stanislaus, which won the Class 6A and 4A state titles, dominated the

All-South Mississippi soccer team.

Justin Rose and Sun Herald player of the year Jarred Arde

are the Admirals' two All-South Mississippi picks.

Phillip Prieur, Evan Ladner and Sun Herald Coach of

the Year Scott Pepperman represent the Rockachaws.

See 3C for a look at the team.



TIM ISBELL/SUN HERALD

Sun Herald soccer Coach of the Year is St. Stanislaus' Scott Pepperman, left; Player of the Year is Gulfport's Jarred Arde.

Pepperman, Arde take soccer honors

By JAMES JONES

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Gulfport and St. Stanislaus were the first pair of Coast teams to win state soccer championships in the same year.

The Sun Herald recognizes the teams for capturing state crowns — the Admirals for 6A and the Rockachaws for 4A.

St. Stanislaus coach Scott Pepperman was named the Sun Herald's Coach of the Year. Gulfport sweeper

Jarred Arde earned Player of the Year.

The Rockachaws were not expected to contend for a 4A state title, especially after losing last year's Player of the Year, Henderson Hewes.

"It was a season where we were reloading," Pepperman said. "We lost six players from the year before. We didn't expect to play for a state title."

St. Stanislaus overcame a slow start behind its first-year coach but cruised to

the school's fifth state title. The Rockachaws also won state titles in 1996, 1997, 2002 and 2003.

"We struggled because we missed some of the football players who won a state title," Pepperman said. "My system is not easy. Once the players figured it out, we went on a roll and were hard to beat."

Arde played a leading role in the Admirals' first-ever state soccer championship. He scored the game's only goal to beat Northwest Rankin

1-0 in the 6A finals.

The senior had 24 goals and seven assists during a memorable, historic senior campaign.

"Winning the state title was bigger than everything else I've done in my whole career," Arde said. "We came up short the year before."

Through all of its rich soccer tradition, Arde is the first Gulfport player to earn player of the year honors.

"This award means a lot," Arde said.

2009-10 SUN HERALD ALL-SOUTH MISSISSIPPI BOYS SOCCER TEAM



Arde

Jarred Arde
Position: Forward
School: Gulfport
Class: Senior
Statistics: 24 goals, 7 assists.

Accomplishments: Led Admirals to first-ever state title. Drake signee. Sun Herald player of the year. Two-time All-South Mississippi pick.



Davis

Josh Davis
Position: Midfielder
School: St. Patrick
Class: Sophomore
Statistics: Eight goals.

Accomplishments: First-time All-South Mississippi pick.



Dye

Michael Dye
Position: Forward
School: Harrison Central
Class: Senior
Statistics: 20 goals, seven assists.

Accomplishments: Two-time All-South Mississippi pick.



Prieur

Phillip Prieur
Position: Forward
School: St. Stanislaus
Class: Senior
Statistics: 21 goals, 13 assists.

Accomplishments: Member of 4A state-title team. First-time All-South Mississippi pick.



Rose

Justin Rose
Position: Goalkeeper
School: Gulfport
Class: Senior
Statistics: 10 shutouts

Accomplishments: Catcher on baseball team. Member of 6A state title team. Mississippi Gulf Coast CC. signee



Sears

Kabe Sears
Position: Striker
School: Gautier
Class: Junior
Statistics: Five goals

Accomplishments: Member of 5A South State champion team. First-time All-South Mississippi pick.



Hammons

B.K. Hammons
Position: Goalkeeper
School: Long Beach
Class: Senior
Statistics: Seven shutouts.

Accomplishments: First time All-South Mississippi pick. Also plays baseball for the Bearcats.



Ladner

Evan Ladner
Position: Sweeper
School: St. Stanislaus
Class: Senior
Statistics: Five goals.

Accomplishments: Member of 4A state title team. First-time All-South Mississippi pick.



Mansfield

Dallas Mansfield
Position: Sweeper
School: D'Iberville
Class: Senior
Statistics: 14 goals.

Accomplishments: First-time All-South Mississippi pick.



Pontius

Taylor Pontius
Position: Defender
School: Biloxi
Class: Senior
Statistics: Stalwart defender.

Accomplishments: One of 6A's top defenders; first-time All-South Mississippi pick.



Sandival

Javier Sandival
Position: Sweeper
School: Ocean Springs
Class: Senior
Statistics: 14 goals.

Accomplishments: First-time All-South Mississippi pick.



Troutman

Ducky Troutman
Position: Midfielder
School: Ocean Springs
Class: Senior
Statistics: 2 goals, 10 assists.

Accomplishments: Mississippi Gulf Coast C.C. Older brother also made All-South Mississippi team.



Zelenka

Reid Zelenka
Position: Sweeper
School: Pascagoula
Class: Senior
Statistics: 12 goals, four assists

Accomplishments: First-time All-South Mississippi pick.

Sports

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SECTION B
MONDAY, MARCH 15, 2010

Sun Herald All-South Mississippi Team

By JAMES JONES
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The Sun Herald girls soccer team, from left, front row: Molly Atherton, Samantha Morgan, Ashley Libys, Torie Zimmer, Jamie Gominger. Second row: Brandee Kovacevich, Christina Lewis, Mischa Tice, Brittany Renner, Ashton Wells, Caitlin Buono, Emmaleigh Davis, Breann Hadien and coach Christina Elias.

The Sun Herald All-South Mississippi girls soccer team has plenty of familiar faces.

Molly Atherton, Samantha Morgan, Mischa Tice, Ashton Wells and Emmaleigh Davis all have made the prestigious team three times.

Making their first All-South Mississippi appearances are Ashley Libys, Torie Zimmer, Jamie Gominger, Brandee Kovacevich, Christina Lewis, Brittany Renner, Caitlin Buono, and Breann Hadien.

For a complete look at the All-South Mississippi team, turn to 3B.

FOR HOME DELIVERY, CALL (800) 346-2472 or 601-346-2472

ALL-SOUTH MISSISSIPPI CAPSULES



Atherton

Molly Atherton
Position: Forward
School: Gulfport
Class: Senior
Statistics: 15 goals, 10

assists

Accomplishments: Alabama signee; two-time Sun Herald girls player of the year; 5A state champion; four-time All-South Mississippi pick; 107 career goals



Buono

Caitlyn Buono
Position: Goalkeeper
School: Ocean Springs

Class: Senior

Statistics: Nine shutouts
Accomplishments: Troy signee; first-time All-South Mississippi pick



Davis

Emmaleigh Davis
Position: Forward
School: Resurrection
Class: Senior
Statistics:

19 goals, 16 assists
Accomplishments: Memphis signee; four-time All-South Mississippi pick, 136 career goals



Hadien

Breann Hadien
Position: Defender
School: Long Beach
Class: Freshman
Statistics: Defensive

stalwart

Accomplishments: First-time All-South Mississippi pick



Gominger

Jamie Gominger
Position: Forward
School: Pass Christian
Class: Juniors
Statistics: 15 goals

Accomplishments: One of the Coast's top juniors; first-time All-South Mississippi pick



Kovacevich

BranDee Kovacevich
Position: Forward
School: D'Iberville
Class: Senior
Statistics: 11 goals

Accomplishments: standout softball player; first time All-South Mississippi pick



Lewis

Christina Lewis
Position: Defender
School: Harrison Central
Class: Senior
Statistics:

Known for her defensive play
Accomplishments: First-time All-South Mississippi pick; will attend Mississippi State



Libys

Ashley Libys
Position: Striker
School: Our Lady Academy
Class: Junior
Statistics: 39 goals and 11

assists
Accomplishments: 1A-2A-3A state champion; two-time All-South Mississippi pick.



Morgan

Sam Morgan
Position: Midfielder
School: Biloxi
Class: Senior
Statistics: 15 goals, 16 assists

Accomplishments: Three time All-South Mississippi

pick; 6A South State champion; Troy signee



Zimmer

Torie Zimmer
Position: Defender
School: Biloxi
Class: Junior
Statistics:) ne of the Coast's top defenders

Accomplishments: 6A South state champion; first-time All-South Mississippi pick.



Renner

Brittany Renner
Position: Forward
School: Ocean Springs
Class: Senior
Statistics:

25 goals
Accomplishments: Jackson State signee; first-time All-South Mississippi pick.



Tice

Mischa Tice
Position: Forward
School: Our Lady Academy
Class: Senior
Statistics: 24 goals 12

assists
Accomplishments: Southern Miss signee, Two-time 1A-2A-3A state champion; three-time All-South Mississippi pick.



Wells

Ashton Wells
Position: Sweeper
School: East Central
Class: Senior
Statistics: 15 goals

Accomplishments: William Carey signee; four-time All-South Mississippi pick; 131 career goals.



TIM ISBELL/SUN HERALD

Molly Atherton and Christi Elias are the Sun Herald's Player and Coach of the Year.

Raising the bar

Atherton, Elias earn top player, coach award

By JAMES JONES

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Our Lady Academy coach Christi Elias and Gulfport sweeper Molly Atherton have each set a standard of excellence for girls soccer on the Coast.

Atherton is the Sun Herald's first consecutive girls Player of the Year. Elias is the only two-time girls Coach of the Year.

Elias and Atherton bring dedication and hard work to bear in winning championships.

Atherton edged out Brittany Renner (Ocean Springs), Torie Zimmer (Biloxi) and Mischa Tice (OLA) for Player of the Year.

"Winning the award is a honor, but I wasn't sure I'd get it," Atherton said humbly. "Being player of the year is great for Gulfport because it gives other players something to shoot for in the future."

Atherton, who scored 15 goals and 10 assists, will play collegiate soccer at Alabama next year. With a 3.9 GPA and 20 ACT, she's academically qualified to play as a college freshman.

"I'm very excited to continue my soccer career," she said. "There's a lot of

hype at Alabama right now with the football team coming off a national championship."

Atherton was a sophomore on the Lady Admirals' 5A state title squad, one of her favorite moments.

"I have a lot of great memories at Gulfport," Atherton said. "We had a family environment at Gulfport."

Elias played at Long Beach during the 1990s when girls soccer was just starting. After a standout career at William Carey, Elias eventually succeeded Danny Owen at OLA.

She edged out Patrick Hayes (Ocean Springs) and Marco Mthembu (Biloxi) for the top coaching award.

"What an honor for OLA," Elias said. "It's easy to be good when you have great players. The girls worked hard."

Elias has led OLA to four 1A-2A-3A state championships, and always embraces high expectations.

"We're always expected to win state titles at OLA," Elias said. "We put pressure on ourselves. We've raised the bar high at OLA."

With Ashley Libys returning for her senior season, the Lady Crescents will be favored to win a second straight title.

Sports

SECTION D

WWW.SUNHERALD.COM

FRIDAY, MARCH 19, 2010

Ladner coaches Mississippi's best against Alabama

All-Star hoops games tip tonight in Pelham

By JAMES JONES

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Jay Ladner has the rare opportunity to coach Mississippi's best basketball players.

The St. Stanislaus coach leads Mississippi into the annual All-Star Classic contest against Alabama tonight at the Pelham Civic Center.

Ladner, who guided the Rockachaws to the 4A state finals, will be assisted by St. Patrick coach Danny



Nit. Pierce



Ladner



Dunnings



Nie. Pierce

Grieves.

"I'm so thrilled to be selected by my peers to coach this game," Ladner said. "It's a great honor for me."

Biloxi guard Jeremiah Dunnings, who averaged 21 points a game, is the only Coast boys' player.

Mississippi's star-laden team is led by Forest Hill guard Andre Stringer, an

LSU signee.

"This is a different kind of challenge for me as a coach," Ladner said. "We've got Andre Stringer and Jeremiah Dunnings from the Coast. I can go on and on about this talented team."

"I hope not to mess them up."

Indians coach Seber Windham is proud to have consec-

Game plan

What: Mississippi-Alabama All-Star Basketball Game

When: Today, 5 p.m. (girls); 7 p.m. (boys)

Where: Pelham (Ala.) Civic Center

utive players in the All-Star game. Isaiah Canaan, now at Murray State, shined in last year's contest.

"I'm so proud of Jeremiah," Windham said. "He came a long way this year, moving from shooting guard to point guard and becoming

a leader on the team. Jeremiah and Isaiah are both great kids."

Harrison Central has two players on the Mississippi girl's squad. Nitesha and Niesha Pierce.

"The twins are very versatile and can play both guard or forward," said Gulfport's Donny Fuller, the administrative coach for the Mississippi girls.

Greenville-Weston guard Breanna Lewis, an Ole Miss signee, leads the Mississippi girls team.

Alabama swept both games last season, leading the boys' all-time series 11-9 and the girls 10-9.

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS



WILLIAM COLGIN/SUN HERALD

Gulfport's Kenny Hudson is thrown out at first base as Harrison Central's Wes Rea digs a low throw out of the dirt in Friday's game.

SSC's Lindgren tosses no-hitter

SUN HERALD

Jake Lindgren threw a no-hitter and struck out eight as St. Stanislaus defeated Poplarville 14-0 Friday in Division 8-4A play.

Lawrence Bourgeois had three hits for SSC (7-1, 3-1). Kollin Cannon, Boomer Scarborough and Justin Vaughn each had two hits. Scarborough had a homer.

SunHerald

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Baseball

Pascagoula 3, St. Stanislaus 2: Taylor Olsen hit a two-run double in the sixth to lift Pascagoula (6-6) to a win at home Saturday.

Garrett Odom added a RBI single in support of winning pitcher Adam Cooley

(2-0). Cooley tossed a two-hitter and struck out four. Boomer Scarborough was the losing pitcher.

LOCAL, 2A

Bay St. Louis celebrates state basketball champs



Sports

SECTION B

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31, 2010

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TIM ISBELL/SUN HERALD

Boomer Scarborough of St. Stanislaus is welcomed at home plate after hitting a grand slam against Bay High.

Scarborough leads SSC past Bay High

By DOUG BARBER

dmbarber@sunherald.com

BAY ST. LOUIS— St. Stanislaus senior Boomer Scarborough showed Tuesday night why Southern Miss signed him to a baseball scholarship.

Scarborough threw a one-hit shut-out and hit a grand slam as St. Stanislaus defeated crosstown rival Bay High 9-0 at the St. Stanislaus baseball field.

The right-hander struck

Web extra

For more photos, go to sunherald.com.

out eight and surrendered the lone hit in the fourth to Anthony Lusco, who hit it over the first baseman's head.

"Anytime you play well against your rivals, you feel good," Scarborough said. "I never try to do too much but you always want to have a good game against Bay. I tried to throw strikes and let my defense work. The defense did a great job making plays."

SSC (11-2 overall, 6-1 Di-

ROCKACHAWS FROM 1B

vision 8-4A) erupted for six runs in the second inning, sending 11 batters to the plate. Lusco hit Justin Vaughn with a pitch to start the one-out uprising.

Two batters later, Michael Gemelli delivered a RBI single. After Mitch Theologos walked, an error on a grounder pushed the lead to 2-0.

Lusco, who struck out six, looked like he might escape with minimum damage when he fanned Krisjon Wilkerson. But Scarborough slammed a mammoth 400-foot shot over the center field fence to stretch the lead to 6-0.

In the sixth, Wilkerson tripled to lead off the inning and Scarborough singled him home. Then a wild pitch netted the final run. Scarborough finished with three hits while first baseman Zander Romano added two in the nine-hit attack.

"We expected them to throw us away and change speeds," St. Stanislaus coach Mark Logan said. "I thought their pitcher did well, keeping us off balance. We had a chance to bust it wide open in the fourth but he got out of it."

"It's not a one-man show. We've got some guys who can swing it."

Scarborough (5-1) got the series off to a good start. SSC comes back with left-hander Jake Lindgren (3-1) tonight at Bay High.

"I told (Boomer) before the season we expect him to give us that kind of performance, which he did tonight," Logan said. "He's been with us a long time and we will miss him when he graduates. He's a good one."

Bay High coach Ricky Smith thought his team should have gotten out of the second inning before Scarborough came to the plate.

"He got ahold of one," Smith said. "But there was an error, a walk and single and that led to the big inning."

Bay High (5-10, 3-4) lost a division series to Poplarville last week and has lost five in a row. Smith liked Lusco's tenacity on the pitching mound.

"He's a competitor, he fought on the mound," Smith said. "Right now, our No. 1 pitcher Tyler Jordan is having elbow problems and that makes a big difference. He couldn't pitch against Poplarville and can't pitch this week. So it's been tough for the kids."

ROCKACHAWS TO 7B

Sports

SECTION C

WWW.SUNHERALD.COM

SUNDAY, APRIL 4, 2010

2010 SUN HERALD ALL-SOUTH MISSISSIPPI BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM

THE COAST'S HOT SHOTS

By DOUG BARBER

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The 2010 boys basketball season will be one that will be remembered for years to come.

Two teams from the same town — Bay High and St. Stanislaus — dueled for the 4A state basketball championship, something that has not happened since Gulfport and Harrison Central in 2002 met for the Class 5A title.

Biloxi made a run at its sixth state championship in basketball, falling short in the 6A State Tournament semifinals.

St. Martin won its first division championship since 2006.

Today, the Sun Herald recognizes its 2010 All-South Mississippi boys basketball team — a baker's dozen of the Coast's best. For a look at the team, player and coach of the year, see 5C.



TIM ISBELL/SUN HERALD

The 2010 Sun Herald All-South Mississippi Boys Basketball team includes (l-r front row) Daron Bell of Bay High, Jarel Shelby of Stone, Eugene Walton of St. Martin, Jeremiah Dunnings of Biloxi, Telvis Henderson of Moss Point; (second row) Daniel Grieves of St. Patrick, Patrick Bousquesto of Harrison Central, Johnny Zuppardo of St. Stanislaus, Guy Payne of Biloxi, Bryan Williams of Pascagoula, Stanley Magee of Pass Christian, Jermille Fluker of Long Beach and Bay High coach Kelton Thompson. Not pictured is Gulfport's Jeremy Newsome.

BRINGING HOME THE GOLD

Bay High's Bell, Thompson lead school's basketball resurgence

By JAMES JONES

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Until this season, Bay High had never won a state championship in boys sports.

Led by coach Kelton Thompson and guard Daron Bell, the Tigers captured the Class 4A state title with a 51-39 win over St. Stanislaus on March 5.

For their efforts, Thompson and Bell were named the Sun Herald's South Mississippi boys coach and boys player of the year, respectively.

Thompson edged Jay Ladner of St. Stanislaus and Seber Windham of Biloxi for the top coaching honor.

"This honor is something I'll appreciate down the road," Thompson said. "The state championship would not have happened without the kids' hard work and dedication."

Thompson's stint as a player and assistant coach at St. Stanislaus also played a big role in his success. He started on the Rockachaws' team that reached the 4A state tournament in 1996.

"It was real fulfilling playing and coaching for Jay Ladner," Thompson said. "I've had a great basketball foundation."

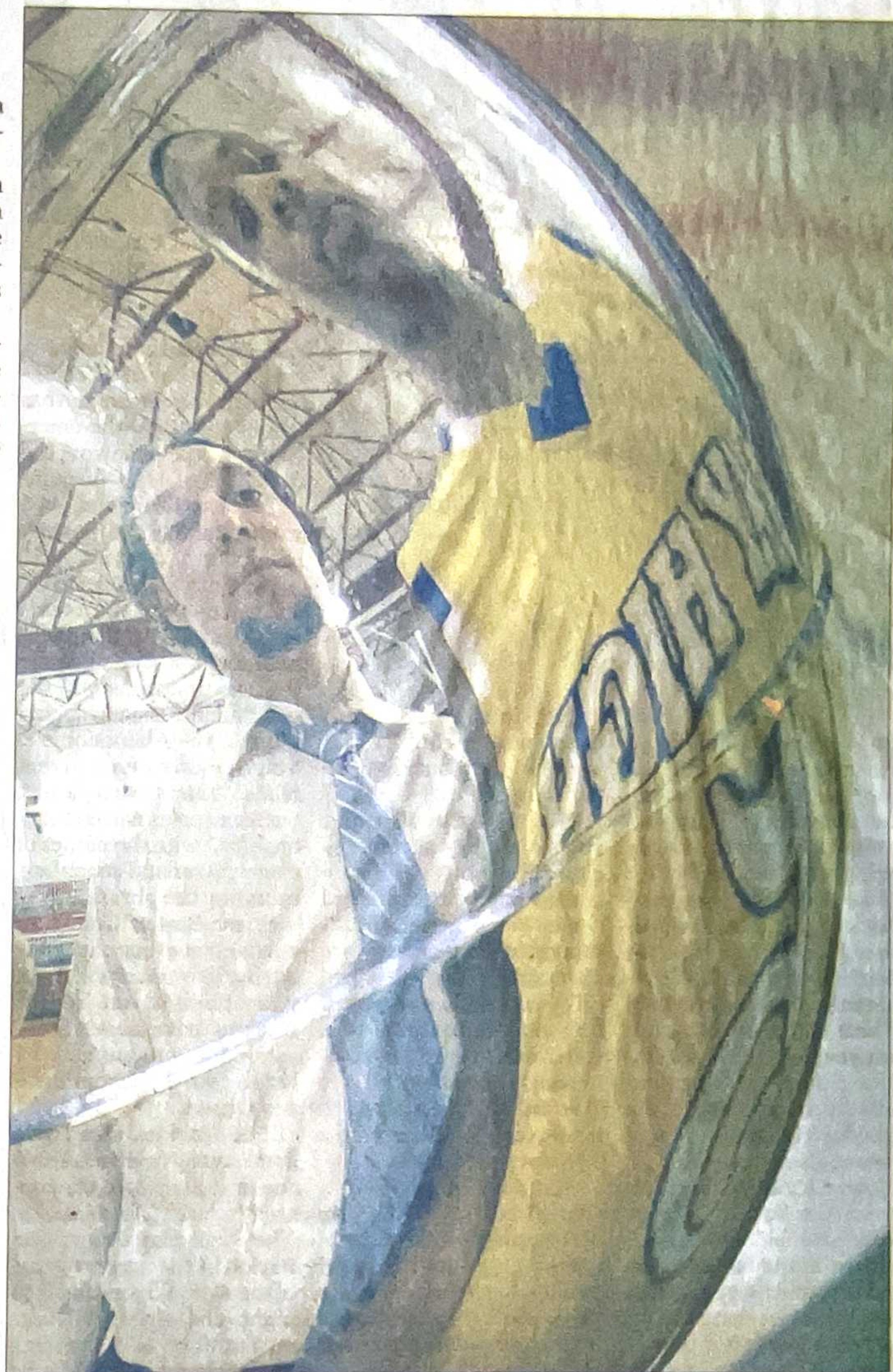
Bell was the driving force behind Bay High's state title, averaging almost a triple-double.

The 6-foot-3 Bell produced 21 points, 10 rebounds and six assists a game for the Tigers (32-5).

Bell edged Jeremiah Dunning of Biloxi, Telvis Henderson of Moss Point and Daniel Grieves of St. Patrick for the player of the year award.

"What a great way to cap a senior year," Bell said. "Winning a state title and being named player of the year. Earlier in the season, Coach Thompson told me I was in the player of the year race. It feels good to earn these awards."

Thompson praised the leadership of the soft-spo-



TIM ISBELL/SUN HERALD

Bay High coach Kelton Thompson and Daron Bell are the Sun Herald coach and player of the year.

ken Bell, who's received collegiate interest from some NAIA schools.

"Daron came from a tough background," Thompson said. "He hadn't gotten many breaks in life. He did so many things for us. Score, rebound and defend."

Windham, who led the

Indians to the 5A title last season, understood why Bell edged Dunning for the Sun Herald's top basketball honor.

"Daron was asked to do more for his team," Windham said. "He and Jeremiah are both great kids."

Bringing a gold ball to

Bay High remains fresh in the minds of both Thompson and Bell.

"No one thought we could win a state title at Bay High," Bell said. "We weren't known for being a basketball school like Biloxi, Gulfport, St. Stanislaus, and Harrison Central."

SUNDAY, APRIL 4, 2010

5C

2010 SUN HERALD ALL-SOUTH MISSISSIPPI BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM



Bell

Daron Bell
School: Bay High
Position: Guard
Height: 6-foot-3
Class: Senior
Statistics: 21 points, 10

rebounds, seven assists, six steals
Favorite NBA player: Allen Iverson



Bousquesto

Patrick Bousquesto
School: Harrison Central
Position: Forward
Height: 6-foot-6
Class: Senior

Statistics: Nine points, five blocked shots, six rebounds
Favorite NBA player: Kobe Bryant



Dunnings

Jeremiah Dunnings
School: Biloxi
Position: Guard
Height: 5-foot-9
Class: Senior
Statistics: 21 points a

game
Favorite NBA player: Stephen Curry



Newsome

Jeremy Newsome
School: Gulfport
Height: 6-foot-2
Position: Guard
Class: Senior

Statistics: 13 points, five rebounds, four assists, three steals
Favorite NBA player: Kobe Bryant



Payne

Guy Payne
School: Biloxi
Position: Forward
Height: 6-foot-5
Class: Senior
Statistics: 12 points, nine rebounds.

Favorite NBA player: LeBron James



Shelby

Jarel Shelby
School: Stone
Height: 5-foot-7
Position: Forward
Class: Senior

Statistics: 15 points a game
Favorite NBA player: Kobe Bryant



Fluker

Jermille Fluker
School: Long Beach
Height: 6-foot-1
Position: Guard
Class: Senior
Statistics: 27 points a game

Favorite NBA player: LeBron James



Grieves

Danlel Grieves
School: St. Patrick
Height: 6-foot-6
Position: Guard
Class: Junior
Statistics: A

state-leading 29 points, 14 rebounds, six assists
Favorite NBA player: Kobe Bryant



Henderson

Telvis Henderson
School: Moss Point
Height: Six-foot
Position: Guard
Class: Senior
Statistics: 20 points a

game
Favorite NBA player: LeBron James



Magee

Stanley Magee
School: Pass Christian
Position: Forward
Height: 6-foot-3
Class: Junior
Statistics: 21 points, seven

rebounds
Favorite NBA player: Carmello Anthony



Walton

Eugene Walton
School: St. Martin
Position: Guard
Height: 5-foot-9
Class: Senior

Statistics: 17 points a game.
Favorite NBA player: Kobe Bryant

Bryan Williams
School: Pascagoula



Williams

Position: Forward
Height: 6-foot-5
Class: Junior
Statistics: 19 points, 11 rebounds.
Favorite

NBA player: LeBron James



Zuppardo

Johnny Zuppardo
School: St. Stanislaus
Height: 6-foot-8
Position: Center
Class: Junior

Statistics: 18 points, eight rebounds a game
Favorite NBA player: Danny Granger

Player of the Year: Daron Bell, Bay High

Coach of the Year: Kelton Thompson, Bay High

Sports

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SECTION B

MONDAY, APRIL 5, 2010

2010 SUN HERALD ALL-SOUTH MISSISSIPPI GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

THE COAST'S HOT SHOTS

By DOUG BARBER

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Harrison Central led the way during the 2010 girls basketball season.

It was a season in which Ocean Springs, Our Lady Academy, Vancleave and Pass Christian showed their prowess as well.

The Red Rebelettes won the 6A South State title before falling to Greenville in the State Tournament semi-finals.

As a result, Harrison Central's Nitesha Pierce is the Sun Herald South Mississippi Girls Player of the year while Red Rebelettes' coach Nancy Ladner earned Sun Herald Coach of the Year honors.

Nitesha Pierce and her twin sister, Niesha, both signed with Southern Mississippi.

The Ocean Springs and OLA girls enjoyed their best seasons ever while Vancleave made its best showing in more than a decade.

For a complete look at the prestigious team, see 3B.



TIM ISBELL/SUN HERALD

The Sun Herald 2010 Girls Basketball team includes (l-r front row) Jeremi Raboteau of Bay High, Delianna Lyons of Long Beach, Gabby Scott of Vancleave, Camille Dunnings of Biloxi, Kayleigh Anspach of D'Iberville; (second row) Coach Nancy Ladner of Harrison Central, Niesha Pierce of Harrison Central, Callie McNally of Our Lady Academy, Nitesha Pierce of Harrison Central, Jasmine Bradley of Pass Christian and Briana Edwards of Ocean Springs. Not pictured are Haleigh Arcement of Hancock, Dana Jones of Gulfport, and Markia Nix of Moss Point.



Harrison Central's Nancy Ladner and Nitesha Pierce are the Sun Herald girls coach and player of the year.

TIM ISBELL/SUN HERALD

HARRISON CENTRAL'S TWIN TOWERS

Ladner, Pierce spark Red Rebelette's basketball success

By JAMES JONES

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Coach Nancy Ladner and Nitesha Pierce are responsible for returning Harrison Central into the Girls' state basketball championship picture.

The efforts of Ladner and Pierce landed them the Sun Herald's top honors in girls' basketball. Ladner was named coach of the year, while Pierce earned the player of the year award.

Ladner edged Tim Bryant (Ocean Springs), Raina Holmes (Vancleave) and Donna Spiers (Our Lady Academy), becoming the first to win consecutive coach of

the year awards.

"I'm honored because there are so many great coaches on the Coast this season," Ladner said.

The Red Rebelettes failed to win their first state crown since 2005, but they reached the state semifinals in consecutive years.

"They were a great group of girls that made my job easier," Ladner said. "To reach the state title back-to-back is an accomplishment. I'm very proud to bring the program back."

Pierce shared the player of the year award with her twin sister, Niesha, last season.

But this season she pulled

away from her sister, Briana Edwards (Ocean Springs), Gabby Scott (Vancleave) and Jasmine Bradley (Pass Christian) to capture the girls' biggest award.

"People always asking me which of us is better," Pierce joked. "Guess I am now because I won player of the year. I guess I proved I was the better player."

Ladner considered Pierce as the main reason for the Red Rebelettes overcoming a slow start and finishing as The Sun Herald's top-ranked team.

"All three years, Nitesha made the All-South Mississippi team," Ladner said. "To share the awards with her

is very special."

Pierce, who suffered a knee injury in the Mississippi-Alabama All-Star Game last month, is headed to Southern Miss.

"I'm looking forward to playing college basketball at Southern Miss," said Pierce, who's qualified academically.

Ladner, a member of three state teams at Harrison Central in the 1980's, believes Pierce has a bright future.

"Nitesha is capable of reaching any monument she wants to reach," Ladner said. "It's all within her grasp."

2010 SUN HERALD ALL-SOUTH MISSISSIPPI GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM



Arcement

11 points.

Hallegh Arcement
School: Hancock
Position: Guard
Height: 5-foot-6
Class: Senior
Statistics:



Anspach

eight points, 10 rebounds, six assists.
Favorite WNBA player: Candace Parker

Kayleigh Anspach
School: D'Iberville
Position: Guard
Height: 5-foot-8
Class: Junior
Statistics:



Bradley

18 points, 15 rebounds
Favorite WNBA player: Tamika Catchings

Jasmine Bradley
School: Pass Christian
Position: Forward
Height: 5-foot-10
Class: Senior
Statistics:



McNally

Junior
Statistics: 16 points and 11 rebounds a game.
Favorite WNBA player: Sylvia Fowles

Callie McNally
School: Our Lady Academy
Position: Center
Height: 6-foot-1
Class:



Nix

16 points, six assists a game.

Markla Nix
School: Moss Point
Position: Guard
Height: 5-foot-9
Class: Senior
Statistics:



Niesha Pierce

Senior
Statistics: 15 points, four rebounds, three assists
Favorite WNBA player: Candace Parker

Niesha Pierce
School: Harrison Central
Height: 5-foot-10
Position: Guard
Class:



Edwards

Statistics: 15 points.
Favorite WNBA player: Candace Parker

Briana Edwards
School: Ocean Springs
Height: 5-foot-10
Position: Forward
Class: Senior



Dunnings

16 points
Favorite WNBA player: Candace Parker

Camille Dunnings
School: Biloxi
Height: 5-foot-7
Position: Guard
Class: Senior
Statistics:



Jones

rebounds three assists a game.
Favorite WNBA player: Candace Parker

Dana Jones
School: Gulfport
Height: 5-foot-8
Position: Guard
Class: Junior
Statistics: 11 points, 5



Lyons

11 points.
Favorite WNBA player: Lisa Leslie

Delainna Lyons
School: Long Beach
Position: Guard
Height: 5-foot-6
Class: Senior
Statistics:



Nitesha Pierce

Senior
Statistics: 16 points, nine rebounds, three steals
Favorite WNBA player: Diana Taurasi

Nitesha Pierce
School: Harrison Central
Height: 5-foot-10
Position: Guard
Class:



Raboteau

14 points
Favorite WNBA player: Candace Parker

Jeremi Raboteau
School: Bay High
Height: 5-foot-8
Position: Forward
Class: Junior
Statistics:



Scott

Statistics: 20 points, five assists a game.
Favorite WNBA player: Diana Taurasi

Gabby Scott
School: Vancleave
Position: Guard
Height: 5-foot-8
Class: Senior

St. Patrick takes 2 from George County

FROM STAFF REPORTS

St. Patrick swept a double-header from George County on Saturday, winning 3-2 and 12-3.

In game one, Joey Harris got the win. Patrick Veale had three hits, while Alex Marshall added two hits. In the second contest, Joey Lacy earned the victory. Harris had four hits, including a homer. Veale had three hits, and Marshall added two for St. Patrick (12-8).

Harrison Central 4, Long Beach 2: Marc Crusoe earned the victory, as the Red Rebels snapped a losing skid. Dalton Parker had three hits, while Michael Gollott added two.

Vancleave 10, East Central 3: Zac Haarala had three hits for the Bulldogs on Friday. Collin Bray had four RBI, while Tyler Bray struck out six to earn the win.

St. Stanislaus 11, Biloxi 2: Cody Brown and Der-

ek Whitfield each had two hits for the Indians. Justin Vaughn (4-0) got the win. Boomer Scarborough had three hits and Krisjon Wilkerson homered for the Rockachaws (15-2).

George County 11, Biloxi 1: The Indians (5-3 Division 7-6A) split a regular-season series with the Rebels on Friday night.

Softball

George County 7, Gulfport 0: The Lady Rebels (14-4-2) won a non Division game as Shelby Hammac (4-0) scattered six hits. Lea Kittrell had two hits, RBI and three stolen bases. Courtney McClaskey had two RBI.

Pass Christian 6, West Harrison 1: Lauren Jenkins earned the victory for the Lady Pirates. Camden Graham had three hits, including a triple. Meredith Cromwell had two hits.

TRACK AND FIELD

✓ **Rockachaws qualify eight for regionals—** Briou Bourgeois won the pole vault with a leap of 12 feet at the Division 8-4A track and field meet.

SSC qualified seven other athletes for the Region 4-4A meet, including Josh Gibson in the pole vault (2nd, 11-6), Tim Flynn in the discus (2nd, 115-7), Luc Gaillot in the shot put (4th, 40-8 1-2), Bingham Wikoff in the 3,200 (2nd, 11:30), Gavin Gros in the 1,600 (2nd, 5:05), Bennett Holland in the 1,600 (3rd, 5:09) and 800 (4th, 2:20) and Heath Coor in the 300 hurdles (4th, 44.2 seconds).

Admirals finish division sweep of Red Rebels

Pair of home runs key Gulfport's win

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Behind a pair of two-run home runs, Gulfport beat Harrison Central 7-4 on Friday.

Jonathan Holder earned the win. He and Jovan Thigpen each hit two-run homers for the Admirals (16-6, 6-2 in Division 8-6A). Jake Chambliss earned the save.

Ocean Springs 4, Pascagoula 0: Matt Lee tossed a one-hitter on 71 pitches as Ocean Springs beat Pascagoula.

The Greyhounds (14-4, 7-1 Division 7-6A) entertain Biloxi on Tuesday.

St. Martin 9, West Harrison 5: Matt Linger threw a complete game five-hitter for the Yellow Jackets (9-9, 6-4 Division 8-5A). C.J. Johnson had four hits and Tyler Quave added three for St. Martin. Brent Ladner and Diggs Spence each had a double for West Harrison (7-12, 4-6).

Long Beach 5, D'Iberville 2: Timmy Maloney allowed three hits and struck out 11 for the Bearcats (11-8, 8-2 Division 8-5A). Garrett Larosa hit a three-run homer and

Michael Paul hit a two-run homer for Long Beach.

St. Stanislaus 6, Greene County 4: Jake Lindgren struck out 13 for the Rockachaws (14-2, 9-1 Division 8-4A). Kollin Cannon and Lawrence Bourgeois each had two hits and Krisjon Wilkerson blasted a two-run homer.

Softball

Poplarville 10, Greene County 0: Rachel Hickman tossed a no-hitter and struck out 10 as the Lady Hornets (19-2, 8-0 Division 8-4A) won on Thursday night. Alyssa Graeter had three hits.

Long Beach 8, Pearl River Central 7: Alli McCaleb struck out 14 to lead the Lady Bearcats (17-1). Melanie McCoy had three hits.

Long Beach 11, D'Iberville 6: Alli McCaleb (13-0) struck out 10 as the Lady Bearcats (5-0 Division 8-5A) cruised. Aseye Attipoe had three hits.

Stone 16, D'Iberville 1: Heather Beasley ran her record to 11-2 with a four strike-out performance. Katy White led the Lady Tomcats with three hits while Julie Butler, Amanda Jones and Beasley each had two hits for Stone (13-2).

SSC heads to playoffs with top ranking

By DOUG BARBER
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St. Stanislaus will be heading to the state baseball playoffs as the No. 1 team in the Sun Herald South Mississippi high school baseball rankings.

The Rockachaws (18-2) face Northeast Jones in their opening Class 4A playoff assignment on Friday. SSC won the football and soccer state championships this school year, and finished as the runner-up to rival Bay High in basketball.

State playoff action begins for everyone on Friday.

Ocean Springs (17-7), the Division 7-6A champ, is ranked No. 2. The Greyhounds face Natchez Friday. Biloxi (18-8) is third and the Indians, the 7-6A runner-up, meet Terry in their first-round series.

Gulfport (17-9) remains No. 4. The Admirals face Oak

Grove in the first round as the 8-6A runner-up. Moss Point (17-7) moved up to No. 5 after winning Division 7-5A.

Rounding out the Top 10, in order, are Long Beach (15-10), Hancock (16-10), St. Patrick (17-9), St. Martin (14-11) and Vancleave (12-10).

Long Beach, the Division 8-5A champ, tangles with Brookhaven. St. Martin, the 8-5A runner-up, squares off with West Jones while Vancleave, the 7-5A runner-up, duels Wayne County.

St. Patrick meets Clarkdale in its opening Class 3A state playoff series.

Several races came down the weather-impacted last week. Ocean Springs bested George County to win 7-6A. Long Beach held off St. Martin in 8-5A and Gulfport turned back Hancock for the 8-6A runner-up slot behind Petal.

Sports

SECTION B

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TUESDAY, APRIL 27, 2010

Sun Herald Top 10

Sun Herald South Mississippi baseball rankings:

Team	Rec	PVS
1. St. Stanislaus	18-2	1
2. Ocean Springs	17-7	2
3. Biloxi	18-8	3
4. Gulfport	17-9	4
5. Moss Point	17-7	6
6. Long Beach	15-10	7
7. Hancock	16-10	5
8. St. Patrick	17-9	8
9. St. Martin	14-11	9
10. Vancleave	12-11	9

Sports

SECTION D

WWW.SUNHERALD.COM

THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 2010

BASEBALL FROM 1D

Ocean Springs, who won the Division 7-6A title over Biloxi in a tiebreaker, entertains Natchez (11-11). The Greyhounds (17-7) won the Class 5A state title two years ago.

Biloxi (18-8) faces a tough first-round opponent, as the Indians travel to Terry.

The 5A South State race will be interesting, as Moss Point (17-7), Long Beach (15-10) and St. Martin (14-11) all have a opportunity to reach the state championship series next month in Pearl.

Moss Point, the Division 7-5A champion, entertains Picayune (10-12). Long Beach, who won the Division 8-5A crown, plays host to Brookhaven.

St. Martin, who fell two runs short of winning the Division 8-5A title, travels to West Jones (20-4). Vancleave (13-12), the Division 7-5A runner-up, travels to Wayne County (12-8).



TIM ISBELL/SUN HERALD
Biloxi shortstop Jordan Skog and the Indians open Class 6A playoff action on Friday at Terry.

Gulfport gets early start in 6A baseball playoffs

By JAMES JONES
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Gulfport has a tough assignment in today's Class 6A baseball playoff opener.

The Admirals (17-9) travel to Oak Grove (20-6) in the first game of the best-of-3 Class 6A series at Harry Breland Field. The other first-round state playoff series involving Coast teams begin Friday.

Gulfport coach Tim Dowdy

said he doesn't see a difference in starting a day earlier for the Division 8-6A runner-ups.

"Since we were rained out last weekend, we're healthy and ready to go," Dowdy said. "With the rain coming in, we wanted to get the series started and not get backed into the second round. Oak Grove's very good team with a lot of tradition."

BASEBALL TO 6D

Game plan

Here are pairings for the state baseball playoffs:

Class 3A

■ St. Patrick at Clarkdale, 6 p.m. (Friday)

Class 4A

■ Northeast Jones at St. Stanislaus, 6 p.m. (Friday)

Class 5A

■ Picayune at Moss Point, 7 p.m. (Friday)

■ St. Martin at West

Jones, 7 p.m. (Friday)

■ Brookhaven at Long Beach, 2 p.m. (Friday)

■ Vancleave at Wayne County, 7 p.m. (today)

Class 6A

■ Gulfport at Oak Grove, 7 p.m. (today)

■ Biloxi at Terry, 7 p.m. (Friday)

■ Natchez at Ocean Springs, 6 p.m. (Friday)

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St. Stanislaus, the Sun Herald's top-ranked team, hosts Northeast Jones, in a first-round 4A playoff series. The Rockachaws (18-2) and West Lauderdale are considered by some as the top teams to battle for the 4A South State title.

In Class 3A action, St. Patrick travels to Clarkdale.

"We're playing pretty well right now," Moss Point coach Matt Cochran said. "The expectations were high this year because we had everyone coming back. We stayed healthy through the season. We've got a great group of seniors who understand the game."

SOFTBALL

✓ **St. Martin 12, West Jones 0**— Breanna Pylar's grand slam led the Lady Jackets (18-3-1) to a game one victory. Fallon Dyle got the win.

✓ **George County 7, Terry 0**— Jeni Heathcock tossed a three-hitter as the Lady Rebels (16-7) won game one.

✓ **Stone 4, Vancleave 0**— Heather Beesley struck out nine and allowed four hits in game one of the 5A series.

✓ **Harrison Central 6, Oak Grove 5**— Caroline Roach and Natalie Hogue each had two hits and two RBI to lead the Red Rebelettes in game one of the 6A series.

SPORTS CALENDAR

TODAY

SOFTBALL

- Class 2A— Our Lady Academy at Lake, 5 p.m.
 Class 3A— St. Patrick at Clarkdale, 4 p.m.
 Class 4A— Poplarville at Quitman, 5 p.m.
 Class 5A— McComb at Long Beach, 5 p.m.
 Class 5A— Stone at Vancleave, 7 p.m.
 Class 5A— East Central at Wayne County, 6 p.m.
 Class 5A— St. Martin at West Jones, 6:30 p.m.
 Class 6A— Oak Grove at Harrison Central, 6 p.m.
 Class 6A— Biloxi at Clinton, 5 p.m.
 College— Tulane at Southern Miss
 College— Ole Miss at Mississippi St., 7 p.m.

BASEBALL

- Class 3A— St. Patrick at Clarkdale, 6 p.m.
 Class 4A— Northeast Jones at St. Stanislaus, 6 p.m.
 Class 5A— Picayune at Moss Point, 7 p.m.
 Class 5A— St. Martin at West Jones, 7 p.m.
 Class 5A— Brookhaven at Long Beach, 2 p.m.
 Class 6A— Biloxi at Terry, 7 p.m.
 Class 6A— Natchez at Ocean Springs, 6 p.m.

SPORTS CALENDAR

TODAY

SOFTBALL

- Class 2A— Our Lady Academy at Lake, 3 p.m.
 Class 3A— St. Patrick at Clarkdale, 2 p.m.
 Class 4A— Quitman at Poplarville
 Class 5A— McComb at Long Beach, 5 p.m.
 Class 5A— Vancleave at Stone
 Class 5A— East Central at Wayne County
 Class 5A— West Jones at St. Martin
 Class 5A— Vancleave at Wayne County
 Class 6A— Oak Grove at Harrison Central, 12 p.m.
 Class 6A— Clinton at Biloxi, 2 p.m.
 Class 6A— Terry at George County, 5 p.m.

BASEBALL

- Class 3A— Clarkdale at St. Patrick.
 Class 4A— St. Stanislaus at Northeast Jones
 Class 5A— Moss Point at Picayune, 2 p.m.
 Class 5A— West Jones at St. Martin, 1 p.m.
 Class 5A— Long Beach at Brookhaven, Noon
 Class 6A— Terry at Biloxi, 7 p.m.
 Class 6A— Ocean Springs at Natchez, 6 p.m.
 Class 6A— Oak Grove at Gulfport
 College— Southern Mis at Tulane, 2 p.m.
 College— Ole Miss at Mississippi St., 6:30 p.m.

LOCAL ROUNDUP

Rockachaws win 4A opener

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Boomer Scarborough struck out eight batters and allowed just two hits in five innings, sending St. Stanislaus to a 12-2 victory over Northeast Jones in the Class 4A playoffs on Friday night.

The Rockachaws (19-2) will try to sweep the best-of-three 4A series in Game Two on the road tonight. Zander Ramano hit a three-run home run for SSC, while Mark Bourgeois had three hits. Scarborough and Jake Lindgren had two hits each for the Rocks.

Terry 4, Biloxi 2: The Indians (17-8) dropped Game One of their best-of-3 Class 6A series at Terry. The Indians will try to force a third and deciding game tonight at 7 p.m. at Biloxi Stadium.

St. Patrick 9, Clarkdale 2: The Fighting Irish's game one was suspended because of rain in the bottom of the fifth, leading 9-2. The game will completed at St. Patrick today at 3 p.m, with the second game following immediately after.

Oak Grove sweeps Gulfport: The Warriors ended Gulfport's season, sweeping their best-of-3 6A playoff series. Oak Grove won Game One 15-2 Thursday at home. The Warriors took the sec-

ond contest 7-1 on Friday at Gulfport.

Softball

Long Beach 3, McComb 1: Allison McCaleb struck out 12 to lead the Lady Bearcats (21-3) in game one of their Class 5A first-round series. Long Beach goes for the series sweep today at noon in McComb.

Clinton 4-10, Biloxi 3-0: Brittany Lang took the loss in the first game, striking out six batters. Tisa Smith had a hit and three stolen bases for the Indians (11-15). Frances Buchanan was the losing pitcher in the second game.

Our Lady Academy 13, Lake 12: Blake Stefano and Regan Huey each had three hits to lead the Lady Crescents (12-10) in their 2A first-round playoff series. Demi Blaker got the victory. OLA hosts Game Two today at 3 p.m.

St. Martin 9, West Jones 0: Paige Breal tossed a three-hitter and struck out 13 for the Lady Jackets (20-3-1), who swept their best-of 3 5A series. Fallon Dyle had two hits and four RBI.

Track

Long Beach wins Region 4-5A: The Bearcats scored

180 points to claim the region team title, over Moss Point (151 points). The Bearcats 800- and 1,600-meter relay teams placed first in their events.

Kenny Nassar won the shot put with a state-best throw of 53 feet 10 inches. Also claiming regional champion individual titles in their events were Brandon Troub (3,200 meter run), John Melendrez (pole vault), Ned Rushing (110 high hurdles) J.J. Townsend (800 meter run). A total of 18 Bearcat boys track team members qualified for the South State Championships.

McComb sweeps Region 3, 5A: McComb won the girls side with a score 137.5 while Picayune was second at 129. In the boys meet, McComb had 142 points and Picayune was second with 117.

Pearl River wins state title: The Lady Wildcats (30-18) captured the state title, beating East Central 2-0 in the finals on Friday.

Mykeal Mays and Bethany Russell each had two hits for the Lady Wildcats, who also beat Gulf Coast 11-6 in the state semifinals. Pearl River made the Region 23 Tournament, Lindsey Dickerson took the loss for Gulf Coast.

IN THE BLEACHERS

Sports

WWW.SUNHERALD.COM

SECTION B

TUESDAY, MAY 4, 2010

Scarborough hurls Rocks to second round

By AL JONES

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BAY ST. LOUIS — Behind a dominating pitching performance by Boomer Scarborough, St. Stanislaus punched its ticket to the second round of the 4A state playoffs with a series-clinching 3-1 win over Northeast Jones on Monday.

The Rockchaws, now 20-3, will host Magee on Friday at 6 p.m. in the second-round opener.

After the Tigers (22-7) forced a third game on Saturday with a 12-3 win, Scarborough (7-1) wanted the ball in the finale.

The Southern Miss signee delivered by striking out eight in the first three innings en route to throwing a complete game five-hitter.

"I told Coach (Mark Logan) that I wanted the ball in Game Three," Scarborough said.

"I threw 80 or 90 pitches in the first game (a 12-2 win). I had the feeling that no one could hit me."

After recording three strikeouts to open the game, Scarborough gave the Rocks a 1-0 lead with an RBI ground-ball out in the first.

In the second, he recorded three more strikeouts against a team that featured a lineup where all nine hitters had at least one home run.

In the third, Scarborough picked up two more strikeouts before ending the inning with a ground out.

"He pitched that well on two days rest," Logan said.

"When he steps on the mound, we expect that from

Prep scoreboard

Monday's scores

Class 6A

Ocean Springs 12,
Natchez 0

Terry 8,
Biloxi 1

Class 5A

West Jones 4,
St. Martin 0

Wayne County 17,
Vanceleave 7

Class 4A

St. Stanislaus 3,
NE Jones 1

See Prep roundup,
Page 7B

him."

In the bottom of the third, Scarborough doubled to left to score Kollin Cannon with two outs to give the Rocks a 2-1 lead.

SSC then stretched its lead to 3-1 in the fourth when Zander Romano scored Jacob Lindgren with a double to center.

From that point, Scarborough retired nine of the next batters he faced, including two strikeouts in the seventh with his fastball hitting 89 mph.

He finished with 12 strikeouts.

"He is our leader," Logan said. "Like I said when he pitches, we expect him to produce at the plate as our team captain."

"We left runners on and it was good to get the key hit (by Romano) to give the insurance run."

2B TUESDAY, MAY 4, 2010

TRACK AND FIELD

✓ **OLA girls win division meet** — Our Lady Academy won the Division 8-2A track meet at Long Beach last Friday, amassing 175 points. Prentiss was second with 80, followed by East Marion (48), Richton (24) and Lumberton (5).

East Marion won the boys meet with 130 points, followed by Lumberton (50), Prentiss (35) and Richton (8).

OLA junior Erin Gibson won the 100-, 200- and 400-meter dashes and anchored the winning 1,600-meter relay team. Junior Denise Powell and eighth-grader Lindsay Raybourn finished 1-2 in the 800-, 1,600- and 3,200-meter runs and were on the 1,600-meter relay team. Senior Mischa Tice won the long jump with a season-best 16-feet, 8-inch leap.

2B SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2010

SPORTS CALENDAR

TODAY

BASEBALL

6A state playoffs — Ocean Springs at Natchez, 6 p.m.

6A state playoffs — Biloxi at Terry, 7 p.m.

5A state playoffs — Vanceleave at Wayne County, 7 p.m.

5A state playoffs — St. Martin at West Jones, 7 p.m.

4A state playoffs — Northeast Jones at St. Stanislaus, 7 p.m.

Community college — Gulf Coast at Pearl River, 4 p.m.

2D FRIDAY, MAY 7, 2010

SPORTS CALENDAR

TODAY

BASEBALL

Arkansas at Ole Miss, 6:30 p.m.

Mississippi State at Auburn, 6:30 p.m.

East Carolina at Southern Miss, 6:30 p.m.

6A state playoffs — Petal at Ocean Springs, 7 p.m.

5A state playoffs — Picayune at Long Beach, 6 p.m.

4A state playoffs — Magee at St. Stanislaus, 6 p.m.

3A state playoffs — St. Patrick at Forest, 7 p.m.

Sports

SECTION C

WWW.SUNHERALD.COM

SATURDAY, MAY 8, 2010

Scarborough, SSC have little trouble with Trojans

By JIM MASHEK

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BAY ST. LOUIS — Boomer Scarborough and St. Stanislaus left nothing to chance on Friday night in Game One of their Class 4A playoff series with Magee.

Scarborough fired a four-hitter and led a prolific SSC offense with a 4-for-4 night, including two home runs and a double, to lead the

ST. STANISLAUS

10

MAGEE

0

when we have an opportunity to run Boomer out there, that's sort of how we expect

Rockachaws to a 10-0 victory in six innings.

"I hate to sound like a broken record," St. Stanislaus coach Mark Logan said, "but

things to go.

"If we can put together four, five runs, we feel pretty good about our chances."

St. Stanislaus (21-3) will try to close out the series on the road tonight, with right-hander Justin Vaughn expected to start on the mound. Scarborough was dominant against the Trojans on Friday night, seldom going to three balls in the count while finishing with eight strikeouts.

The SSC right-hander didn't walk a batter. He earned his 10th victory against a single defeat.

"We knew they had a lot of speed and would try to get something going on the bases," Scarborough said. "I tried to pound the zone and let the defense do the work."

SSC catcher Krisjon Wilkerson and Scarborough got

ROCKACHAWS TO 3C

ROCKACHAWS FROM 1C

the Rockachaws going with back-to-back home runs in the first inning, both to right-center field. Scarborough led off the third by lining Brooks Fortenberry's first pitch into left-center field for a double. Courtesy runner Austin Tinney went to third on a wild pitch before scoring on Lawrence Bourgoeis' ground ball to make it 4-0.

Jacob Lindgren delivered a two-run triple to center field

with two outs in the fourth before scoring on an error. Wilkerson led off the sixth with a single before Scarborough crushed a pitch from left-hander Franklin Hayes for a two-run home run to left-center field.

Bourgoeis scored on a Magee error to end the game via the 10-run rule in the bottom of the sixth.

"We've just got to take care of business in Game Two," Wilkerson said. "We can't overlook anybody."

Magee dropped with 23-7 with the loss.

Gulf Pine Catholic • May 14, 2010

St. Stanislaus, Bay St. Louis



The St. Stanislaus College (SSC) Chapter of Fellowship of Christian Athletes (F.C.A.) collected and distributed 75 Easter baskets to Memorial Hospital, Gulfport; Hancock Medical Center, and the Prevention of Child Abuse Agency in Harrison County. FCA is a nationally recognized chapter of students who take part in athletics and who appreciates the meaning of Jesus in their lives. The SSC Chapter fosters good sportsmanship and Christian values in athletics. SSC students in grades 9-12 who participate in at least one varsity sport, a member of the band, or serves as an athletic manager or cheerleader are eligible to join F.C.A. Members must maintain a high standard of Christian awareness. The SSC Chapter of F.C.A. is in its 15th year on campus and participates in yearly projects such as Thanksgiving baskets, Christmas toy drives and Easter baskets. FCA officers and sports representatives are pictured with Easter baskets that were collected.

Sports

WWW.SUNHERALD.COM

SECTION C

THURSDAY, MAY 13, 2010

HIGH SCHOOL PLAYOFFS

Controlling the mound

SSC, LB looking for first trip to state finals

By JAMES JONES

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Long Beach and St. Stanislaus have never reached the state finals in baseball. The Bearcats and Rockachaws begin their title quests on the road today.

The Bearcats (19-11) travel to West Jones (24-6) at 7 p.m. in Game 1 of the Class 5A South State Finals. St. Stanislaus (22-3) squares off against West Lauderdale at 6 p.m. in Meridian. Long Beach and St. Stanislaus will host Game 2's on Friday. West Jones and West Lauderdale will host a third game, if needed on Saturday.

Long Beach won four of its five playoff games, but went a deciding third game against Picayune.

The Bearcats certainly have the pitching staff — a



TIM ISBELL/SUN HERALD

Long Beach pitcher Timmy Maloney helped the Bearcats reach the 5A South State finals.

BASEBALL TO 7C

Game plans

BASEBALL

Class 5A South State Finals

Who: Long Beach at West Jones
When: Tonight, 7 p.m.
Where: Soso.

Class 4A South State Finals

Who: St. Stanislaus at West Lauderdale
When: Tonight, 6 p.m.
Where: West Lauderdale.

Class 6A South State Finals

Who: Oak Grove at George County
When: Tonight, 6:30 p.m.
Where: Lucedale

SOFTBALL

Class 5A South State Finals

Who: Wayne County at Stone High
When: Tonight, 7 p.m.
Where: Stone High.

BASEBALL FROM 1C

duo of Timmy Maloney (10-2) and Michael Paul (6-5) — to defeat the Mustangs and reach the state finals.

"Our hard work and dedication have paid off," said Maloney, who leads the Coast with 120 strikeouts. "We have good team chemistry."

Chase Lunsford, one of the Bearcats' clutch hitters, noticed a different team since spring break in March.

"Early in the season, our bats weren't on," Lunsford said. "Now, our bats are on fire."

Mark Ross has guided the Bearcats to four South State title games, but has a 0-3 record in previous semifinal contests.

"Those were different teams," Ross said.

St. Stanislaus, like Long Beach, has won four of its five postseason games. The Rockachaws captured the

Division 8-4A title.

"Getting to South State means a lot because we've never been there," St. Stanislaus coach Mark Logan said.

The Rockachaws have relied on the solid hitting and pitching of Boomer Scarborough. The senior All-South Mississippi performer has a 10-1 record, 106 strikeouts, a 0.58 ERA while hitting 11 homers. Michael Ginnelli, Krisjon Wilkerson, Justin Vaughn and Zander Romano have also provided big plays.

"Boomer's been an excellent player and an excellent leader," Logan said. "We've had great senior leadership from Michael, Krisjon, Justin and Zander. That's why sports at St. Stanislaus had a great year: senior leadership."

West Lauderdale defeated East Central in three games to win the 4A state title last year.

SPORTS CALENDAR

TODAY

BASEBALL

Class 5A state playoffs — Long Beach at West Jones, 7 p.m.

Class 4A state playoffs — St. Stanislaus at West Lauderdale, 6 p.m.

MACJC State Tournament at Smith-Wills Stadium in Jackson — Pearl River vs. Hinds, 3 p.m.

MACJC State Tournament in Jackson — Jones County vs. East Central, 6 p.m.

SOFTBALL

Class 6A state playoffs — Oak Grove at George County, 6:30 p.m.

Class 5A state playoffs — Wayne County at Stone, 7 p.m.

SPRING FOOTBALL

Jamboree at A.L. May Stadium in Perkinston (Bay, Lumberton, St. Martin, West Harrison, D'Iberville, Harrison Central, Pascagoula, Stone), 4 p.m.

St. Stanislaus at Long Beach, 5:30 p.m.
Gautier at Ocean Springs, 6 p.m.

Sports

WWW.SUNHERALD.COM

SECTION C

THURSDAY, MAY 6, 2010

Game plan

Here are today's matchups in the state fast-pitch playoffs:

Class 2A: Enterprise at Our Lady Academy, 6 p.m.

Class 4A: North Pike at Poplarville 5 p.m.

Class 5A: Wayne County at Long Beach, 6 p.m.

Class 5A: St. Martin at Stone, 7:30 p.m.

Class 6A: George County at Brandon, 7 p.m.

State softball playoffs resume tonight

By JAMES JONES

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Six teams remain in the state fast-pitch softball championship race.

Our Lady Academy, Poplarville Long Beach, Stone, St. Martin and George County all advanced to the second round, which begins tonight.

With Long Beach, St. Martin and Stone still alive in Class 5A, the Coast has a good shot at taking home a state title this season.

St. Martin (20-3) travels to Stone for the first game tonight and will host games two and three, if necessary, on Saturday. St. Martin beat Stone 10-6 in the second game of the season.

"5A South is pretty tough," Lady Jackets coach Joe Rankin said. "Stone has a good team. Heather Beesley's a good pitcher and they can hit the ball. We just need to do the things we've done all season."

Long Beach (20-3), which lost the Division 8-5A title to St. Martin on a run-differential tiebreaker, hosts Wayne County (17-9).

Poplarville (27-4) remains one of the favorites in 4A, hosting North Pike. The Lady Hornets took two of three from Quitman last weekend after losing the opener.

"We know we're the favorites and losing that opener to Quitman was a wake-up call for us," Lady Hornets coach Jonathan Ray said.

George County (17-7) was the only Coast team to survive in 6A, but the Lady Rebels meet a familiar foe.

The Lady Rebels face Brandon (18-5), a team that ended their season for the last two years.

"They've knocked us out and we hope to end that this time around," Lady Rebels coach Bruce Thornton said. "They have a good team."



JOHN FITZHUGH/SUN HERALD
Stone pitcher Heather Beesley and the Lady Cats host St. Martin today in the second round of the Class 5A softball playoffs.

High school playoffs scoreboard

BASEBALL

Class 5A
Long Beach 12
West Jones 4

Class 4A
St. Stanislaus 8
West Lauderdale 1

SOFTBALL

Class 6A
Oak Grove 10
George County 3

Class 5A
Stone 4
Wayne County 0

More coverage, 5D

SunHerald

SOUTH MISSISSIPPI'S NEWSPAPER

75¢ VOL. 126, NO. 224

SATURDAY, MAY 15, 2010

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HIGH SCHOOL PLAYOFFS

Scarborough leads Rocks to win

By JAMIE WACHTER
The Meridian Star

COLLINSVILLE — In what was supposed to be a showdown between aces Thursday, St. Stanislaus held a trump card — Boomer Scarborough's bat.

Scarborough, who was pitted against West Lauderdale's No. 1 Wes Stokes, delivered both with his arm and his powerful bat in providing the difference in Game 1 of the MHSAA Class 4A South State championship series at Jerry Boatner Field.

Scarborough blasted home runs in his first two at-bats and the Rockachaws rolled to an 8-1 win. Game 2 is today at 6 p.m. in Bay St. Louis with Caleb Melton pitching for West Lauderdale against SSC's Justin Vaughn.

"He got a couple of big home runs and at 3-0, it was over with," said Boatner, West's coach. "He was better than we were. We let one man beat us, basically."

After Stokes, who entered with a 12-1 mark for the Knights, walked Krisjon Wilkerson with one out in the first, Scarborough drove a 1-1 pitch out to left field to put SSC (23-3) up 2-0. Two innings later, the Southern Miss signee unloaded on a hanging curveball, easily clearing the wall in left-center.

"I've said it all year-long, that's what we expect out of him," St. Stanislaus coach Mark Logan said. "He's our bulldog and that's why we thrown him the first game."



PAULA MERRITT/MERIDIAN STAR

St. Stanislaus' Boomer Scarborough fires a pitch to a West Lauderdale batter during Thursday's best-of-3 Class 4A first game in Collinsville.

"He's done that a lot. He's had many good pitching performances and had another good night at the plate. But, you're right, he set the tone."

When his bat wasn't inflicting damage on West's hopes of a state championship repeat, the 6-foot-2, 235-pounder's right arm was shutting those title dreams down. After walking West leadoff hitter Trey McPherson — who was promptly thrown out trying to steal second — in the first, Scarborough allowed a two-out double to Melton before mowing through the

West (21-12) lineup.

Following Melton's liner down the left field line, the only Knight to get a ball out of the infield before the sixth was a seeing-eye ground ball through the right side by Dustin James with two outs in the fourth.

"We were out of the game in the first inning," Boatner said. "That guy is a good pitcher, and I heard he was. That was name of the game. We couldn't hit him."

Scarborough, who struck out 11 in improving to 11-1, allowed seven hits, including a pair in the sixth when West tallied its lone run. Trailing 8-0, Melton reached on an infield single and moved up to second on a throwing error before scoring on James' two-out double off the base of the wall in left.

Before that late score, it was all Rockachaws. Armed with the 3-0 lead provided by Scarborough's two blasts, SSC broke the game open with a pair of runs in the fifth. With two on and two outs, Stokes attempted to pick Austin Tinney — running for Scarborough after an intentional walk — off first but his throw sailed wide and into right field. The wild toss allowed Wilkerson to score from second and when West first baseman Lucas Leeper's throw

SPORTS, 1C

SSC, Bearcats storm into state title series



SunHerald

SOUTH MISSISSIPPI'S NEWSPAPER

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2010

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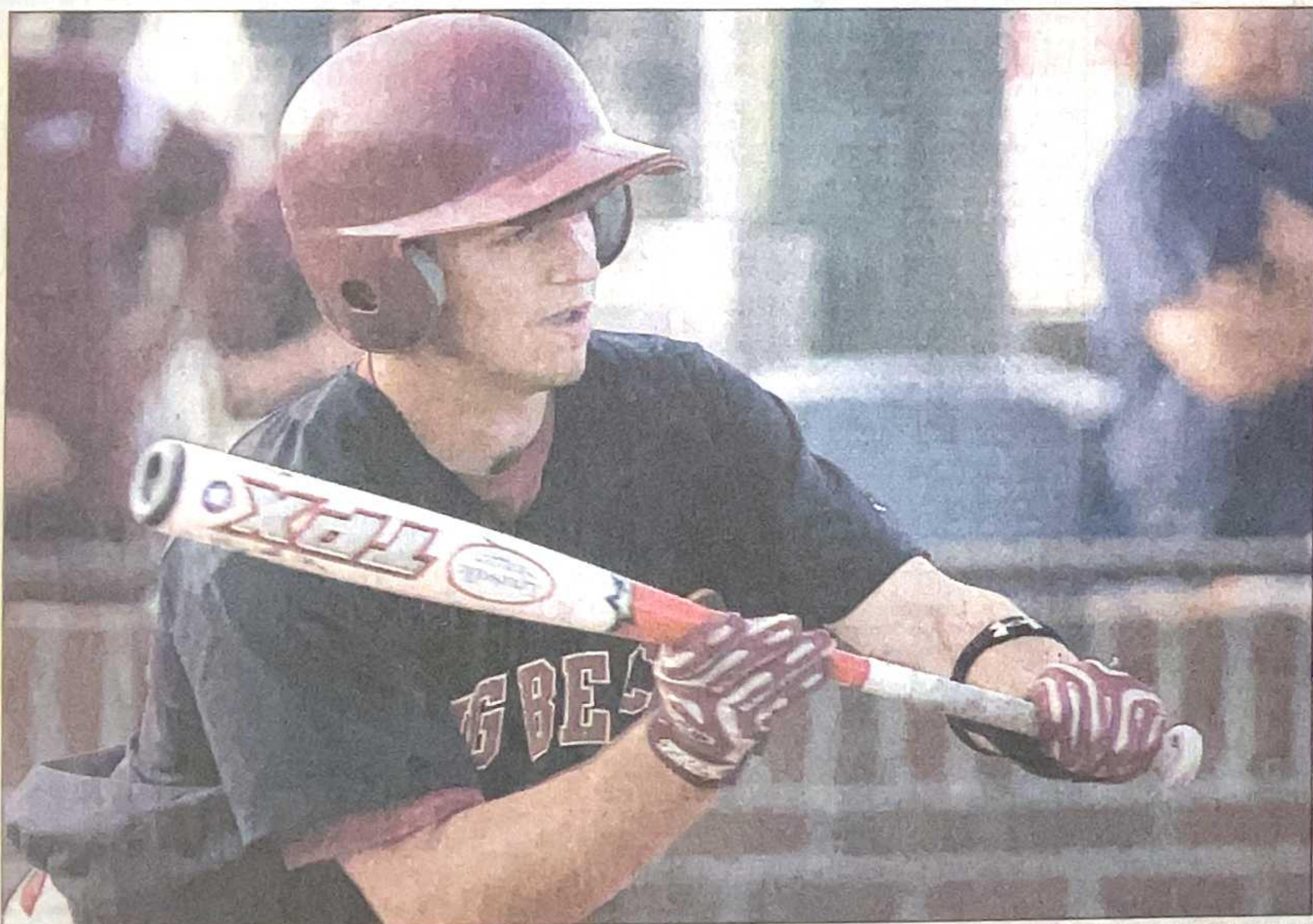
Sports

SECTION B

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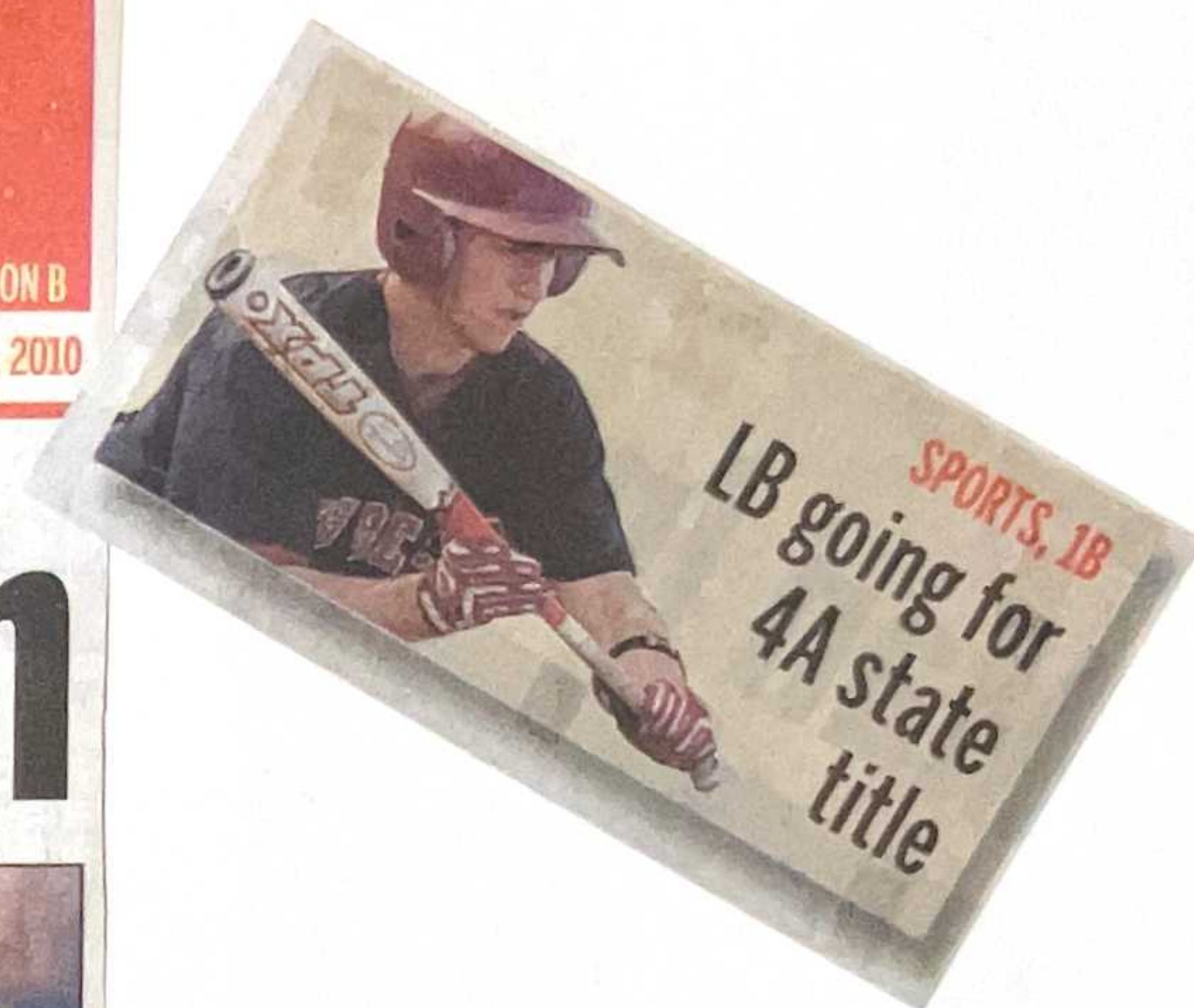
WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2010

Bearcats' aim



B.K. Hammons bats for Long Beach during a home game against Picayune on May 10.

WILLIAM COLGIN/SUN HERALD



Long Beach strives to reach first — a state title

By DOUG BARBER

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LONG BEACH — A slight drizzle greeted the Long Beach Bearcats on Tuesday afternoon as they continued to practice in preparation of the school's first championship series in baseball.

The Bearcats (21-11) begin their quest for the Class 5A state championship a week from today at 10 a.m. at Trustmark Park in Pearl when they take on Ridgeland. Trustmark Park is the home of the Double-A Mississippi Braves of the Southern League.

They wrapped up the South State title Friday by sweeping West Jones in Mike Rutledge Stadium.

"It's amazing. There are no words to describe how I'm feeling right now," Long Beach pitcher Timmy Maloney said. "We're just going to take state. There's nothing else to say."

"It's a great honor," pitcher Michael Paul said. "Our team has

worked hard all year. This is it. The last two years of our high school career are the best games we will play,"

Longtime coach Mark Ross is excited as well.

"It's great for our fans and players," he said. "They've worked hard, like every other club I've had here the last 20 years. Sometimes a little chemistry and the breaks will take care of business."

"The whole year long our division was solid. We were winning close games and our kids were learning how to handle adversity with the close games."

It has been exciting school year for Coast teams, with first-time state champions like St. Stanislaus in football and Bay High in boys basketball. St. Stanislaus, like Long Beach, is also travelling to Pearl for the state championship baseball series — in Class 4A. The Rockachaws, like the Bearcats, have not won a state title in baseball.

Ridgeland eliminated Saltillo,

Pearl and Hernando on their road to Pearl.

Long Beach eliminated Brookhaven, Picayune and West Jones.

The Bearcats took two of three from Picayune, winning Game 3 on a three-run homer by Paul and the pitching of Maloney.

Then Long Beach rallied at West Jones, winning 12-4 with an eight-run seventh inning and Paul's relief pitching.

Maloney threw a two-hit shutout in a 5-0 win at home for the climatic win for the South State title.

"We wanted revenge on West Jones for what happened last year," Paul said. "We were pumped up."

Maloney (11-2, 130 strikeouts) and Paul follow in the tradition of former Bearcat hurlers like Bobby Reed, Duane Ross, Gary Rath and Chris Reinike.

And then there is nothing like the excitement of playing for a state championship.

"It's kind of like Mardi Gras," Mark Ross said.



TIM ISBELL/SUN HERALD

Chase Lunsford of Long Beach celebrates after knocking in three runs May 7.

Web extra

More photos of the Long Beach Bearcats baseball team are at sunherald.com

Coming Thursday



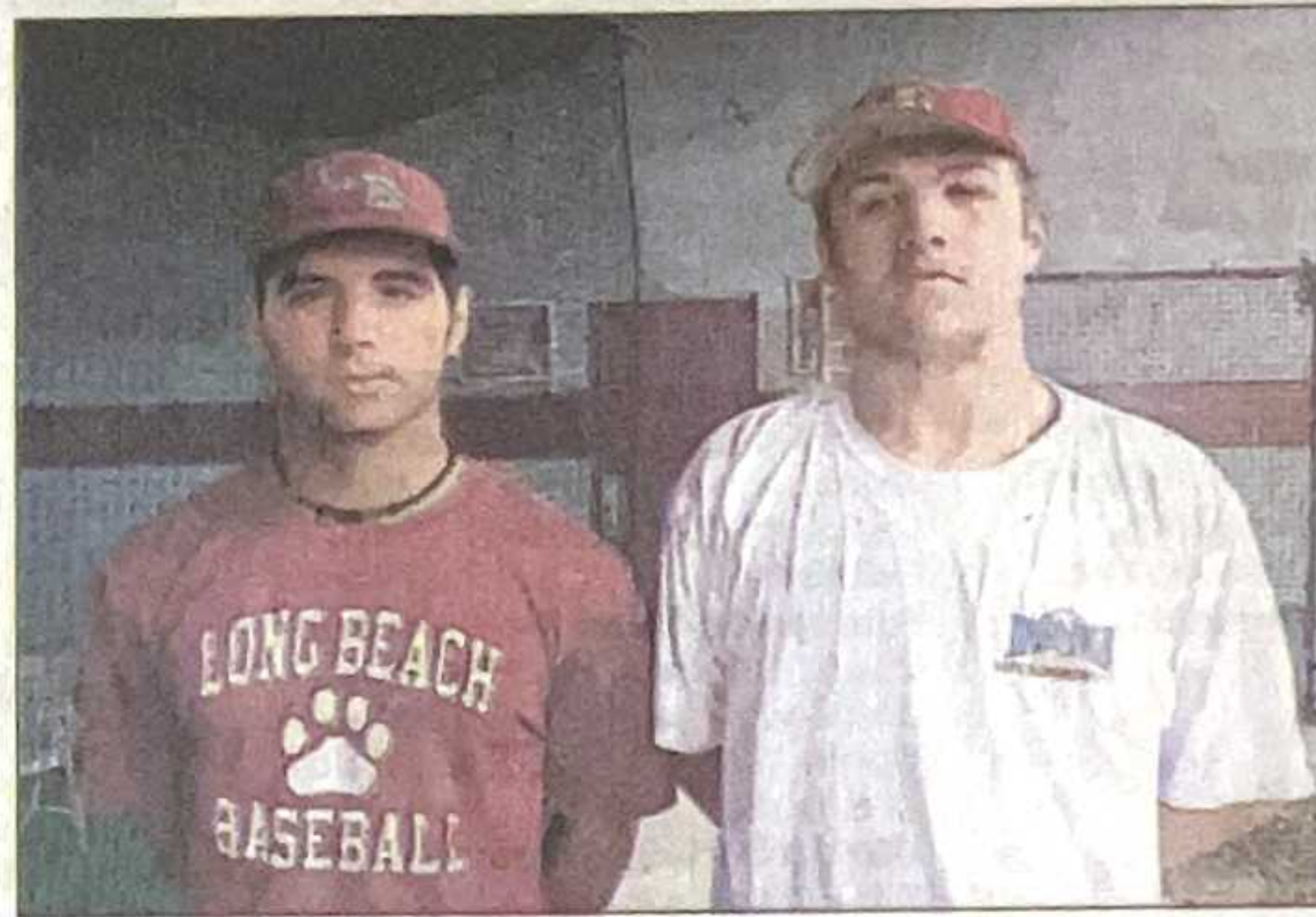
The St. Stanislaus Rockachaws, like the Long Beach Bearcats, are seeking their first state baseball title in their class.



DOUG BARBER/SUN HERALD

"It's kind of like Mardi Gras."

Mark Ross, left, Long Beach High School coach



DOUG BARBER/SUN HERALD

Pitchers Michael Paul, left, and Timmy Maloney.

Championship baseball

Class 5A

May 26, 10 a.m. — Long Beach vs. Ridgeland
May 27, 4 p.m. — Long Beach vs. Ridgeland
May 28 or 29 — Game 3, if necessary
Site of games: Trustmark Park in Pearl

Class 4A

May 25, 10 a.m. — St. Stanislaus vs. Amory
May 27, 1 p.m. — St. Stanislaus vs. Amory
May 28 or 29 — Game 3, if necessary
Site of games: Trustmark Park in Pearl

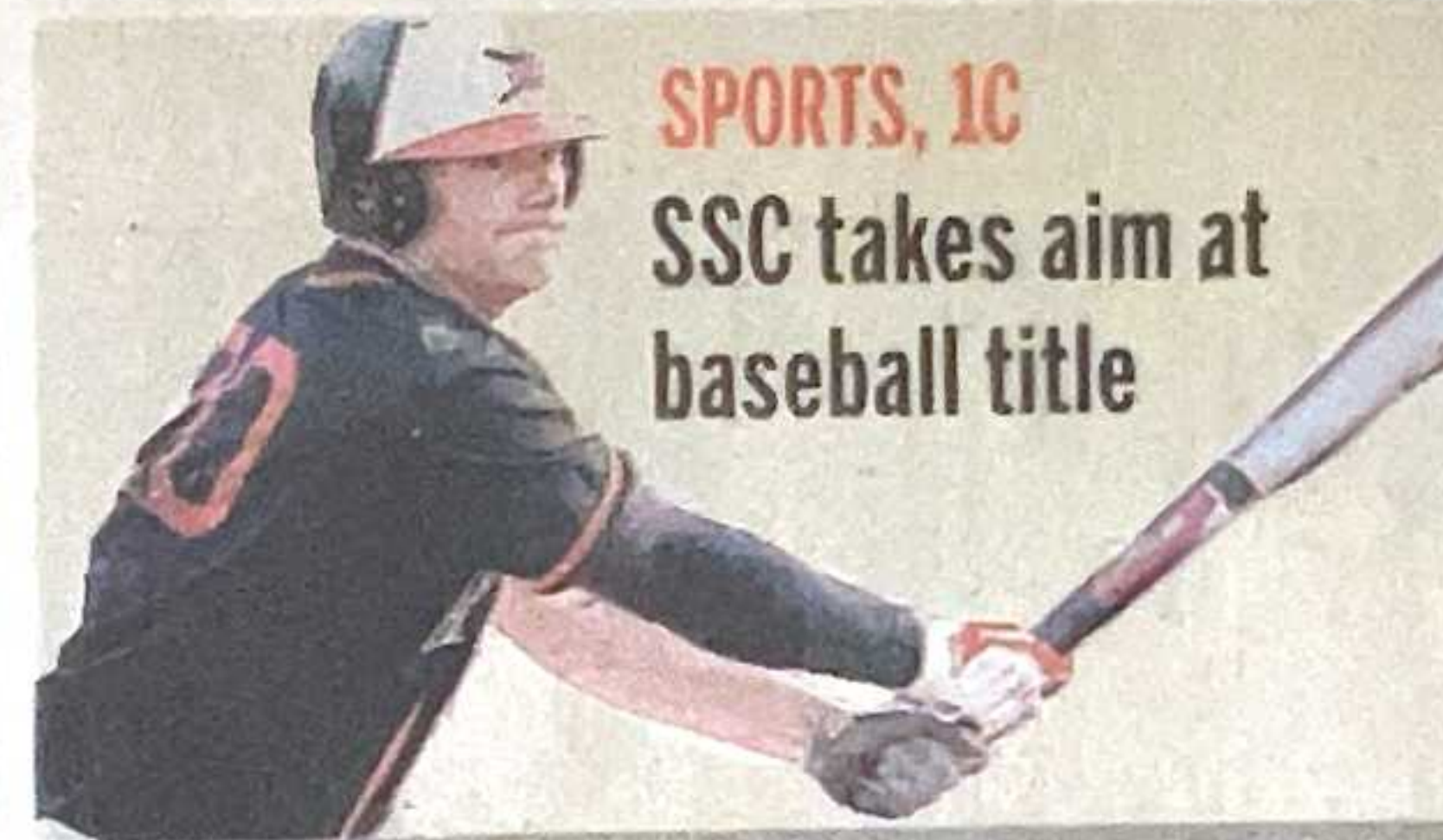


LOCAL, 2A

Lucky ticket could win house



Saints' Sean Payton hosts ground-breaking for St. Jude's Dream Home fundraiser



SPORTS, 1C

SSC takes aim at baseball title

SPORTS, 1C

SMOKIN' THE SOUND RACING DRAWS NEAR

SunHerald

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THURSDAY, MAY 20, 2010

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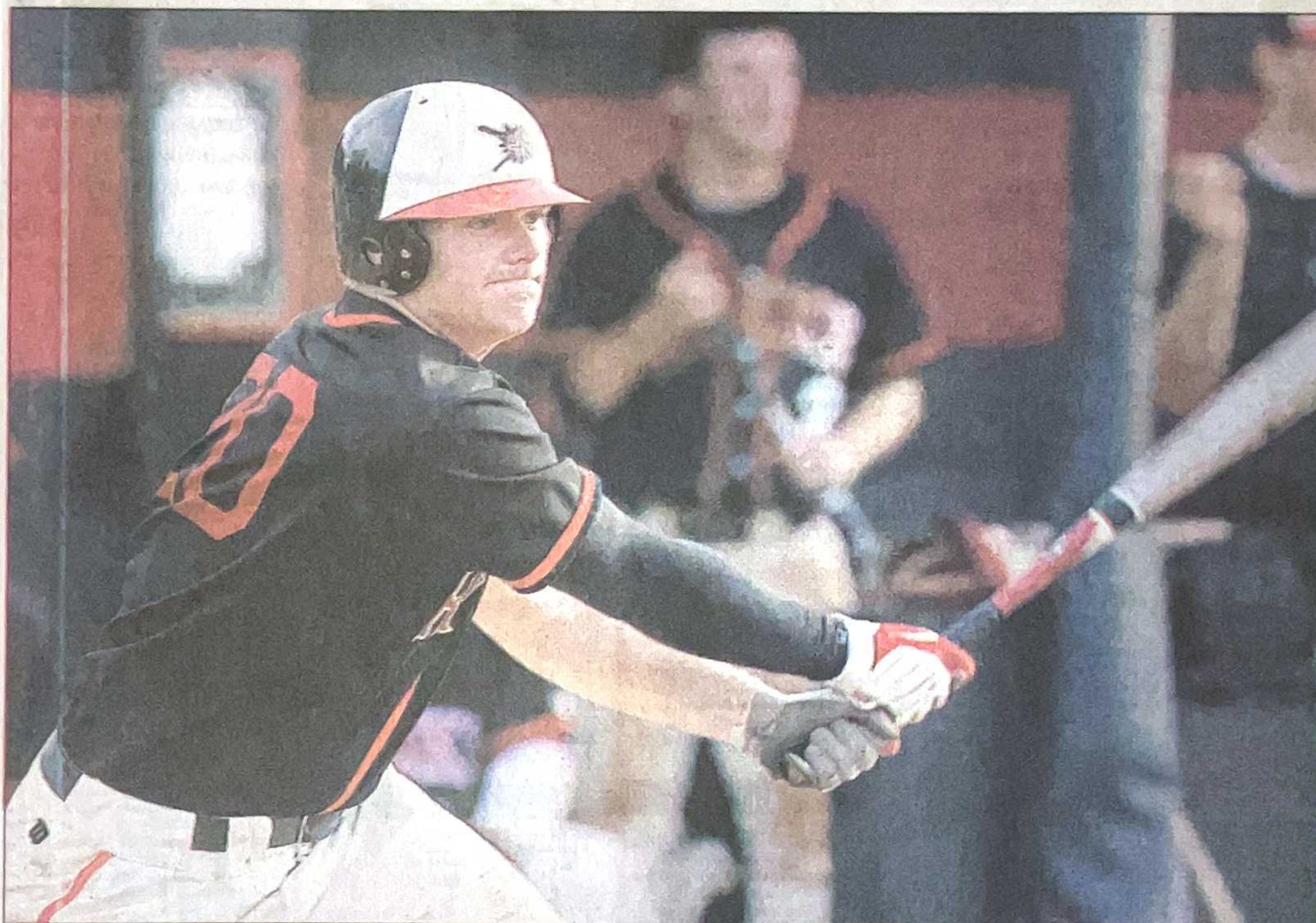
Sports

SECTION C

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THURSDAY, MAY 20, 2010

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL



TIM ISBELL/SUN HERALD

St. Stanislaus pitcher/shortstop Boomer Scarborough of St. Stanislaus wants to lead the Rockachaws to a third state championship this season.

Rockachaws' triple play

St. Stanislaus eyes its third state title this school year

By JAMES JONES

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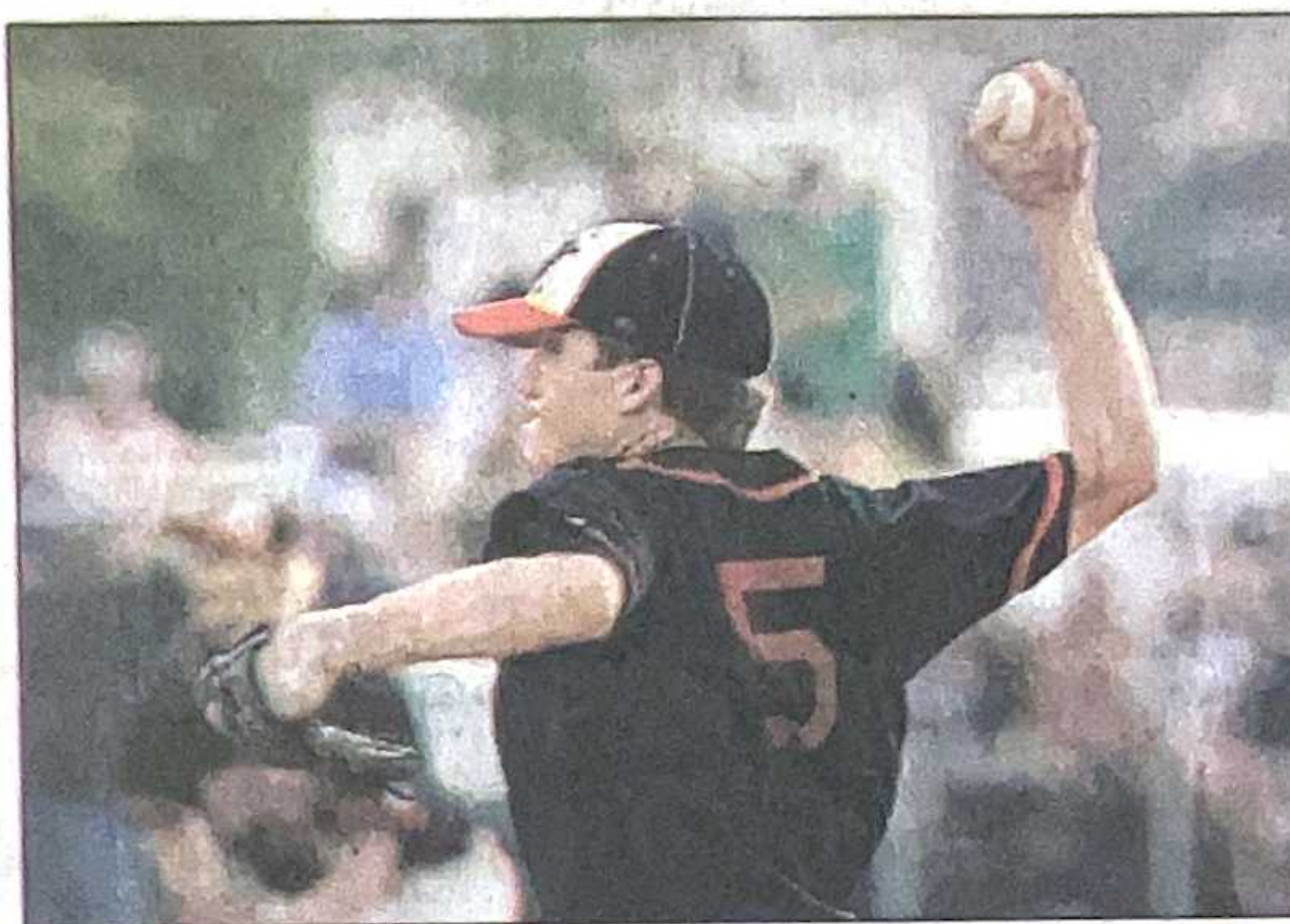
BAY ST. LOUIS — Moments after St. Stanislaus captured the Class 4A state soccer championship in February, Boomer Scarborough set his sights on winning a baseball title.

St. Stanislaus (25-3) goes for the 4A state title next Tuesday as they face Amory (27-5) in a best-of-3 4A series at Pearl's Trustmark Park.

If the Rockachaws are successful, Scarborough will end his prep career with three state title medallions. He was also a starting linebacker/wide receiver on the football team that won a 4A state title.

Teammate Kollin Cannon, a junior, also played on the Rockachaws' football and soccer title teams.

"Anytime you play your last game at St. Stanislaus and head to the state title series, it's always special,"



TIM ISBELL/SUN HERALD

Justin Vaughn has a 6-0 record as the Rockachaws' No. 2 starting pitcher this season.

Scarborough said.

Alongside pitcher Justin Vaughn, catcher Krisjon Wilkerson, first baseman Zander Romano and outfielder Michael Gemelli, Scarborough is part of the school's most successful senior class.

"I've had more talented teams here at St. Stanislaus, but this is a special group of seniors," Rock-

achaws coach Mark Logan said. "All of their hard work has paid off. They've done a great job as leaders on and off the field."

St. Stanislaus' title run is built on chemistry and athletic prowess, which Romano can't put into words.

"We can't describe it. We have a great group of seniors," Romano said.

Added Gemelli: "We've been together since the seventh grade. I'm glad that we have a opportunity to be playing for the state title."

None of the other players gets upset when Scarborough grabs most of the headlines.

The Southern Miss baseball signee has a sparkling 11-1 record with 120 strikeouts and a Coast-leading 15 homers. He will pitch at Southern Miss, but also plays shortstop.

The Rockachaws are focused on winning a state title.

"We've got one more title to win," Wilkerson said. "It's an awesome opportunity we have."

St. Stanislaus is enjoying the greatest title run of any Coast school, winning two of three major crowns. Only the basketball squad failed to win a state title, beaten by crosstown rival Bay High in the state finals.

Game plan

Class 5A

Wednesday, May 26, 10 a.m.

Long Beach vs. Ridgeland (Game 1)

Thursday, May 27, 4 p.m.

Long Beach vs. Ridgeland (Game 2)

Friday, May 28

or Saturday, May 29

Long Beach vs. Ridgeland (Game 3, if necessary)

Class 4A

Tuesday, May 25, 10 a.m.

St. Stanislaus vs. Amory (Game 1)

Thursday, May 27, 1 p.m.

St. Stanislaus vs. Amory (Game 2)

Friday, May 28, or

Saturday, May 29

St. Stanislaus vs. Amory (Game 3, if necessary)

Game Site: Trustmark Park in Pearl

Admission: \$10

Sports

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SECTION D

FRIDAY, JULY 9, 2010

Kennedy leads MAC South basketball team

By JAMES JONES

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Pass Christian's Buddy Kennedy gets his turn to coach in the Mississippi Association of Coaches All-Star Basketball Game.

Kennedy will coach the South boys squad in Saturday's All-Star contest at Mississippi College. The boys' game begins at 3 p.m., preceded by the girls' contest at 1 p.m.

The All-Star game will also have a 3-point shoot-

**Inside
Rosters,
2D**

ing contest and a slam dunk contest, both of which take place tonight at 6:30.

"I've had numerous coaches tell me that this may be the most talented group of rising seniors in Mississippi," Kennedy said. "I'm real excited to be coaching in this game, and a huge honor for me."

The longtime Pirates coach will have four All-South Mississippi selections on the roster: Johnny Zuppardo (St. Stan-

islaus), Stanley Magee (Pass Christian), Daniel Grieves (St. Patrick) and Bryan Williams (Pascagoula).

Grieves led the Coast in scoring (29 points a game) and rebounds (14 a game). Magee averaged 21 points a game and led the Pirates to a Class 3A state title two years ago.

Williams chipped in 19 points and 11 rebounds. Zuppardo averaged 17 points and eight rebounds.

"The Coast has four of the 12 players from the South,"

Kennedy said. "The Coast is well represented. Grieves, Magee, and Zuppardo are good players. It seems like Bryan Williams has played at Pascagoula forever. He shows up and plays hard."

Three Coast natives made the South's girl squad: Callie McNally (Our Lady Academy), Daiquari Raine (Poplarville) and Arianne Ausmer (Pass Christian).

McNally was an All-South Mississippi pick, averaging 16 points and 11 rebounds for the Crescents.



TIM ISBELL/SUN HERALD

Pass Christian coach Buddy Kennedy will coach in the Mississippi All-Star Basketball Game tonight in Clinton.

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Sports

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SECTION C

SATURDAY, JUNE 12, 2010

Coast soccer standouts get their last kicks in All-Star contest

By JAMES JONES

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The Coast had one of its best groups of girls' soccer players during the 2009-10 season.

Ten girls players from the Class of 2010 will play their last varsity game today in the Mississippi All-Star Soccer Game at Hinds Community College.



Atherton

Molly Atherton (Gulfport), Sam Morgan (Biloxi), Caitilyn Buono (Ocean Springs), Brittany Renner (Ocean Springs), Ashton Wells (East Central) and Mischa Tice (Our Lady Academy) all made the Sun Herald's

All-South Mississippi team and were picked for the South squad.

Atherton was named the Sun Herald's Player of the Year for the last two seasons, becoming the first girls' player to accomplish the feat.

All six players are headed to play on the collegiate level. Atherton signed with Alabama. Tice is headed to Southern Miss. Renner

signed with Jackson State. Buono and Morgan landed with Troy. Wells, who signed with William Carey, next season, said she doesn't plan to play.

"We had a great group of seniors on the Coast," Gulfport girls coach Chris Pryor said.

The North girls won 3-0 last year, increasing their series lead to 10-2-2.

Other local players on the South squad are Kendall Holloway (Biloxi), Becca Scott (Pascagoula), Kristi Ladner (Harrison Central) and Trahissa Moore (Long Beach).

Celeste Bryant of Brandon will coach the South squad in the contest that starts at 10 a.m.

Six Coast players made the boys' South roster coached by Mark Taylor of Clarkdale.

The boys' game will start at noon.

Harrison Central led the way with two players. Michael Dye and Patrick Ryland. Justin Rose (Gulfport), Harrison Russell (Biloxi), Antoine Armstrong (Pascagoula) and Matt Greenough (East Central) are also on the South roster.

The South leads the series 10-8-2.

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Top producer award recipients named

The Gulf Coast Association of Realtors presented several awards in residential and commercial categories during its annual Top Producer Award Ceremony.

Thirty-eight members of the Gulf Coast Association of Realtors chose to participate for awards.

Association President Jon W. Ritten of Coldwell Banker Coast Delta Realty served as the master of ceremony for the event. Becky Brooks of Coldwell Banker Alfonso Realty served as chairperson for the Top Producer Awards Committee.

Five members achieving Life Membership status were inducted into the Top Producer Round Table. Round Table status is achieved after receiving the Top Producer Award for five years.

Receiving awards for 2009 were:

- **Residential Bronze Award** — Brian Clark, Gene Cox, Gale Gilpin, Peggy Gore, Donna Melton, Sandi Pickard, Sabrina Redmon, Larry Semski and David Waldroup.

- **Residential Silver** — Rhonda Aldridge, Rhonda Black, Mary Ann Clisby, Renae Collier, Ashley Endris, Daniel Frisella, Mariela Goodman, Philip LeBlanc, Sue Sunderland and Aleshia Toles.

- **Residential Gold** — Emily Bogolin, Liz Corkren, Caroline Getter, John Hall and James Overstreet.

- **Residential Platinum** — Cameron Bell, Tammy Eakes, Gaye Leggett, Michael Marcellus, Dina Naron, J. Neal Olive, Cindy Riemann, Lynn Wade, Sandy Webb and Amy Wood.

- **Residential Emerald** — Sandy Webb.

- **Residential Diamond** — Amy Wood.

- **Commercial Bronze** — Carol Thuy-Guillory.

Interest rate roundup

Here's a look at the state of mortgage rates from the weekly national survey of large banks and credit unions for the week ending April 2010.

Rate: 4.95 percent (30-year fixed) Average

Mortgage rates rose off their record lows.

The average 30-year fixed-rate mortgage rate was 4.95 percent. A basis point is one-hundredth of a percent.

Meanwhile, this week's average 15-year fixed-rate mortgage rate option for refinancing – edged up 2 basis points.

The average jumbo 30-year fixed slipped to 5.25 percent.

Adjustable-rate mortgages split this week. The average 5/1 ARM rate mortgage rose 4 basis points, to 4.91 percent. The popular 5/1 ARM fell 5 basis points, to 4.86 percent.

Mortgage applications edged up a season high for the third straight month according to the Mortgage Bankers Association. For the week ending April 19, 2010, activity rose 2.4 percent. However, applications for new mortgages fell 4.1 percent.

In other mortgage-related news, pending home sales rose for the third straight month according to the National Association of Realtors. The NAR Pending Home Sales Index rose 1.1 percent in April when compared to the previous month, but fell 1.1 percent year over year.

- **Commercial Silver** — Marvin Koury.

- **Commercial Gold** — Melissa Warren.

- **Commercial Platinum & Commercial Emerald** — Nguyen.

- **2009 Round Table Inductees** — Rhonda Aldridge, John Hall, Philip LeBlanc, Sabrina Redmon, Mary Ann Clisby, Amy Wood.

Five Coast athletes earn PopStar awards

BY DOUG BARBER AND JAMES JONES
Sun Herald

Five Coast athletes received player of the year awards at the 18th annual Popstar awards on Wednesday at the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame Museum in Jackson. The award is given annually to Mississippi's top prep players in their respective sports.

Cory McGee of Pass Christian was a double winner, earning the top cross country and track female player of the year.

St. Stanislaus pitcher Boomer Scarborough and quarterback Dylan Favre were named players of the year in baseball and football, respectively.

Alyssa Grater of Poplarville was named slow-pitch player of the year, while Our Lady Academy's Kirsty Schmitt earned the top volleyball honor.

Football: Picayune hosts Hancock in a football jambo-ree tonight. The junior varsity gets the action underway



Favre

Scarborough

at 5:30 p.m., with the varsity squaring off at 6:45 p.m.

Picayune (8-4) is expected to challenge Moss Point and West Jones as contenders for the 5A South State title. The Maroon Tide returns several players from last year, including running back Jamal Hall and tight end Malcolm Faciane.

Hancock (5-6) must find replacements for All-South Mississippi quarterback Keagon Gillihan and linebacker/running back Chris Bermond.

Volleyball: The Coast has its largest representation for this year's Mississippi All-Star Volleyball Game.

Twenty local players were chosen for the all-star event, which will be played on July 20 at Mississippi College. For the first time this season, the

all-star game will have a junior and senior format.

Our Lady Academy, which won the 1A-2A-3A title, has two players chosen for the junior game. Callie McNally and Erin Gibson.

Sisters Brittany and Victoria Nutting represent Hancock. Other juniors chosen were Morgan Wesson (Gulfport), Allison McCaleb (Long Beach), Neely Gaddy (St. Patrick) and Presley Owens (Vance).

Biloxi, Hancock, Long Beach, St. Patrick each have two players in the senior game.

Courtney Pollock of Long Beach will coach the South seniors. David Irwin of Hancock will coach the South juniors.

Briana Dubaz and Monique Ransom lead the Lady Indians. Renee Lee and Erin Ross are from Hancock. Chrissy Slade and Allison Ladner are from Long Beach. Briana Dubaz and Naquel Jala-navich lead the Lady Irish. Schmitt, Dannielle Taft (Vance) and Cassie Feather-

ston (Gulfport) are the other seniors.

Softball: The Division 8-4A fast-pitch softball team was released this week.

Poplarville, which won the Division 8-4A title and reached the 4A quarterfinals, led the way with five players. Janessa Dedeaux, Alyssa Graeter, Kayla Ross, Paige Miller, and Rachel Hickman.

Bay High, the Division 8-4A runner-up, had four players. Amber Lichtenstein, Michelle McKay, Michelle Stringer, and Meghan Maddox.

Camden Graham and Caitlin Beech, both of Pass Christian, also made the squad.

Tennis: Gulf Coast signed two tennis players to scholarships this week. Matt Cannaday and Arielle Fischer. Cannaday played at Stone High, reaching the state 5A semifinals in 2010 and was ranked No. 3 in Mississippi last season. Fischer, an Ocean Springs native, has been a part of several junior tennis state championship teams.

This WLOX Breaking News Alert is brought to you by Keesler Federal Credit Union.



In today's economy, we've got all the right pieces.

St. Stanislaus one win away from another title

PEARL, MS (WLOX) – It was called by one reporter as the best game he'd ever seen. The St. Stanislaus Rockchaws used a sixth inning suicide squeeze bunt to score what turned out to be the game winning run in a thrilling 5-4 victory over Amory.

St. Stanislaus is now just one win away from the Class 4A baseball championship. Game two of this series is Thursday night at 7:00 in Pearl.

Boomer Scarborough went the distance this morning to record the victory. He struck out nine Amory batters. Scarborough is now 12-1 on the season.

Bo Brennan laid down the squeeze bunt in the bottom of the sixth. That gave St. Stanislaus a one run lead – a lead it would not relinquish.

You can watch highlights of this game, and hear post-game reaction on WLOX News at 5, and later today on WLOX.com.

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4 Our Lady Academy, Bay St. Louis



Six OLA graduates received special awards at the Our Lady Academy Graduation Ceremony on May 29. They are, l-r, Abigail Simpson, the Mary Patricia Schmidt Character Cup; Kaitlin Collins, the Hancock County Chamber of Commerce Award; Sarah Haas, the Principal's Cup; Mary McCubbin, the Faculty Achievement Award; Hannah Anderson, the "Spirit of Mercy" Award; and Paige Muse, the American Legion Award.



Our Lady Academy's Pepsi Students of the Year, l-r, are: Isabel Cottone, 7th grade; Leah Sandoz, 8th grade; Nicki Reeder, freshman; Darby Raybourn, sophomore; and Virginia Comer, junior. The OLA faculty recognizes Pepsi Students of the Month for such reasons as excellence in character, school spirit, citizenship, responsibility, and academic or athletic achievement during a particular month.



Our Lady Academy held a Promotion Ceremony for forty-one eighth grade students, above, in Our Lady of the Gulf Church on May 28. The ceremony celebrates the promotion to high school.

The members of Our Lady Academy's eighth grade are: Crystal Airhart, Kali Albright, Jane Betz, Jaime Bishop, Elizabeth Black, Demi Blaker, Heather Brown, Caroline Caliva, Claudia Caplinger, Mary Michael Collins, Christian Davidge, Lindsey Dey, Ashlyn Fletcher, Connie Gaillot, Alicia Gates, Brittany Gough, Whitney Grannan, Gaelyn Gros, Concordia Hotard, Taylor Huey, Veronica Hymel, Alexandra Ivey, Jillianne Larson, Brittany Laurent, Balus Lee, Lyndsey Lee,

Phoebe Marquez, Shelby McConnell, Annie Murphy, Elizabeth Murray, Emily Necaie, Hannah Oliver, Lindsay Raybourn, Jamie Read, Leah Sandoz, Maycee Scardino, Sarah Schloemer, Sydney Schmidt, Megan Smith, Katherine Taylor, and Madeline Wischow.

Following the Certificates of Promotion, OLA principal Susan Goggins presented the President's Education Awards to Whitney Grannan, Gaelyn Gros, Taylor Huey, Lyndsey Lee, and Sarah Schloemer. These five students received a certificate and a congratulatory letter from the President of the United States. They qualified for this honor based on their GPA and scores on the Stanford Achievement Test.

Honor Roll

Those students who achieved the Principal's Honor Roll (All A's) include:

7th Grade: Kayleigh Aicklen, Brittany Corder, Isabella Cottone, Jamie Cox, Amelia De Metz, Katherine Hotard, Kaitlyn Laurent, Mary McGinity, Leah Morris, Sarah Rimmer.

8th Grade: Taylor Huey, Lyndsey Lee, Leah Sandoz, Sarah-Anne Schloemer.

9th Grade: Allison Burnison, Emily DiLorenzo, Mary Margaret Gagnet, Sydney Gargiulo, Courtney Geroux, Emma Hoelzel, Regan Holley, Amy Catherine Love, Savannah Matthews, Harley Miller, Holly Raymond, Nicki Reeder, Madison Schloemer.

10th Grade: Kolleen Aicklen, Allison Ariatti, Margaret Artigues, Jordan Benvenuti, Caroline Collins, Dylan Haywood, Reagan Huey, Cali Longo, Darby Raybourn, Mattison Scardino.

11th Grade: Stephanie Burnison, Melissa Mitchell, Whitney St. Mary, Hannah Wikoff.

12th Grade: Hannah Anderson, Melody Campbell, Sarah Haas, Paige Muse, Abigail Simpson.

St. Stanislaus, Bay St. Louis

St. Stanislaus students James Kergosien and Morey Wood have been selected to attend the 2010 Mississippi Governor's School held at the Mississippi University for Women in Columbus. The Mississippi Governor's School, established in 1981, "provides academic, creative and leadership experiences for a select number of rising high school juniors and seniors who have demonstrated exceptional ability and achievement in their studies and who show high intellectual, creative, and leadership potential." Students who participate in the MS Governor's School will receive three hours of elective honors credit that can be applied to a university degree.

Kergosien, son of Drs. Carolyn and William Kergosien of Bay St. Louis, is a member of the Bro. Peter Basso, SC Chapter of the National Honor Society and has achieved the President's Honor Roll (4.0 GPA) while at SSC. He is a member of SSC's Key Club, Mu Alpha Theta (Math Club), and Quiz Bowl Team. As a member of SSC's Youth Legislature Group, he was recognized as an Outstanding Representative in 2008 and 2009. While in seventh grade, James was the recipient of a Duke TIP Bevan Scholarship as part of the Duke Talent Identification Program. He is a member of the SSC Junior Varsity



Kergosien



Wood

Soccer Team and a student manager for the SSC Varsity Football and Soccer Teams. He is also a teaching assistant with Our Lady of the Gulf's CCD program.

Wood, son of Dr. Chuck and Amy Wood of Pass Christian, is a member of the Bro. Peter Basso, SC Chapter of the National Honor Society, where he served as secretary for the 2009-2010 school year. He has achieved the President's Honor Roll since the seventh grade and has maintained perfect attendance from first grade through his junior year of high school. He served as an officer for SSC's National Honor Society, Magic Club, and Literary Magazine. He is also the videographer for SSC's Robotics Club, and is a member Mu Alpha Theta, Mock Trial Team, the Student Ministry Team, and SSC Student Ambassador. As a member of the SSC's Youth Legislature Team, Morey has served as a Reading Clerk and is the Governor's Chief of Staff for 2010. He belongs to Boy Scouts of America, Troop 381 and received Eagle Scout recognition in 2009. He serves on the Mayor's Youth Council for the city of Pass Christian, has volunteered for the Pass Christian Chamber Music in the Air, is a spotlight operator for the St. Paul Carnival Ball, and a Junior Member of the Pass Christian Yacht Club.

Sports

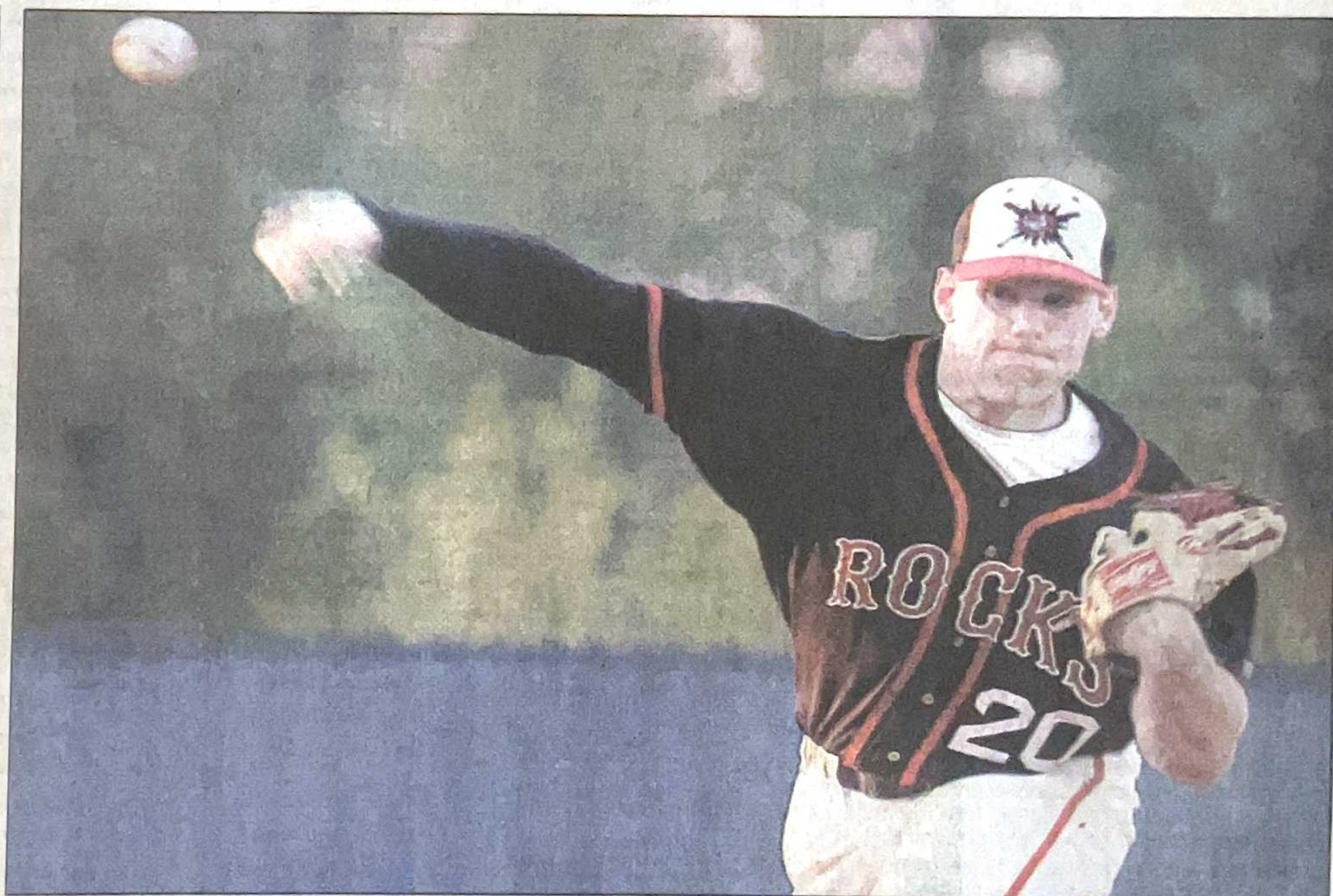
SECTION B

WWW.SUNHERALD.COM

TUESDAY, MAY 25, 2010

Reach us

Doug Barber
Sports
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Boomer Scarborough of St. Stanislaus has struck out 120 batters this season.

TIM ISBELL/SUN HERALD



RICK GUY/THE CLARION-LEDGER
Rockachaws first baseman
Zander Romano.

SSC on verge of completing banner year

PEARL
St. Stanislaus was the only Mississippi high school to play for boys state championships in football, baseball, basketball and soccer for the 2009-10 school year.

COLUMN
The Rockachaws won Class 4A state titles in football and soccer and sit one victory away from a baseball crown.

St. Stanislaus (25-3) can wrap up its first state baseball title with a Game 2 victory over Amory on Thursday at Trustmark Park.

Rockachaws pitcher-shortstop Boomer Scarborough and outfielder Kollin Cannon both earned medallions in football and soccer.

A baseball crown would complete the trifecta for the All-South Mississippi football performers.

"It was great winning titles in both football and soccer, but baseball is my sport," Scarborough said.

Bearcats, SSC playing for titles

SSC starts today; Long Beach begins Wednesday

By JAMES JONES
jjones@sunherald.com

PEARL— Eight miles separate Long Beach and St. Stanislaus.

The two schools plan on bringing state championships back to their respective schools this week.

St. Stanislaus (25-3) faces Amory in Game 1 of the Class 4A state championship series today at 10 a.m. at Pearl's Trustmark Park. Long Beach (19-11) squares off against Ridgeland in Game One of the 5A title series on Wednesday at 10 a.m. Both Game Two's will be played on Thursday. A third game, if needed, will be played on Friday.

Only once has the Coast swept the 4A and 5A titles. East Central and Ocean Springs accomplished the feat in 2008, sweeping the 4A and 5A championships, respectively.

Coaches Mark Logan of St. Stanislaus and Long Beach's Mark Ross are friends, as well as former Division 8-4A rivals. The Bearcats moved up to 5A, while the Rockachaws remained in 4A after the MHSAA's latest realignment.

"Mark and I are the best of friends," Ross said. "We talked the other day and are both excited for each other playing for the state championship."

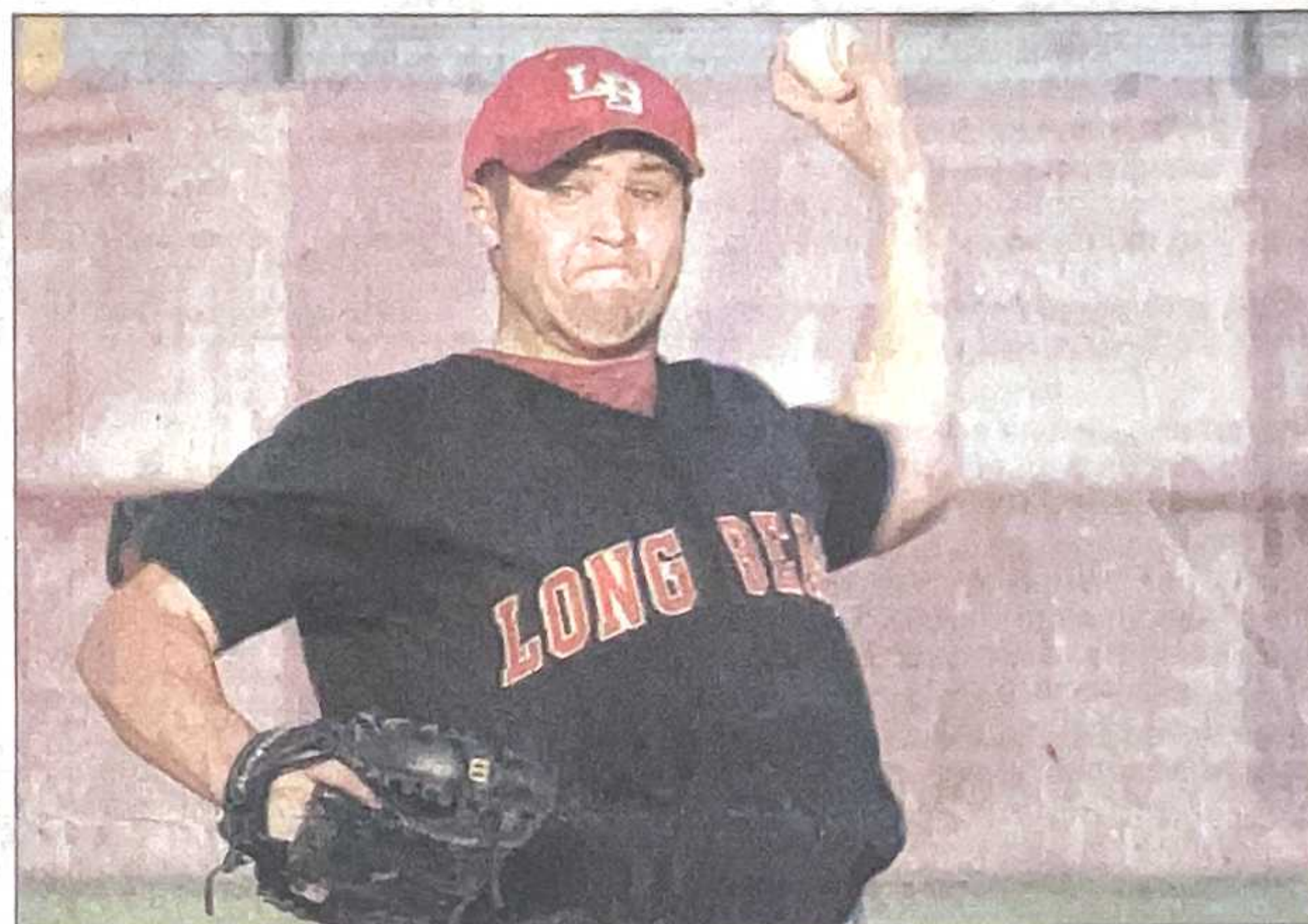
The Division 8-4A battles between the Bearcats and Rockachaws were always left on the field after the games ended.

"Mark's a good coach and good guy," Logan said. "We always had a friendly rivalry. There were never any hard feelings. We always had great games and great teams. Mark and I keep in contact with each other. We'll watch each other play in Pearl."

For Logan, getting his alma mater to the state championship series has been rewarding.

"When I played at St. Stanislaus, I never thought we'd be playing for a state baseball title," Logan said. "But the kids worked hard and it's a great accomplishment."

With a senior-laden lineup, the Rockachaws appear to have the easier path



TIM ISBELL/SUN HERALD

Timmy Maloney of Long Beach has struck out 130 batters this season.

Championship baseball

CLASS 5A
Wednesday, May 26, 10 a.m. — Long Beach vs. Ridgeland (Game 1)
Thursday, May 27, 4 p.m. — Long Beach vs. Ridgeland (Game 2)
Friday, May 28 — Long Beach vs. Ridgeland (Game 3, if necessary)

CLASS 4A
Tuesday, May 25, 10 a.m. — St. Stanislaus vs. Amory (Game 1)
Thursday, May 27, 7 p.m. — St. Stanislaus vs. Amory (Game 2)
Friday, May 28 — St. Stanislaus vs. Amory (Game 3, if necessary)

Game Site: Trustmark Park in Pearl
Admission: \$10

of winning their first state crown in baseball.

Behind the arm and bat of Boomer Scarborough (11-1, 120 strikeouts, 15 homers), St. Stanislaus has no problem scoring runs. Krisjon Wilkerson and Kollin Cannon are both capable of blasting home runs, with Justin Vaughn (6-0) a quality No. 2 pitcher.

Amory (27-5) only has one pitcher: Will Cox (14-0). Despite Cox's unbeaten record, the junior has never seen a po-

tent lineup like St. Stanislaus. The Panthers are going for their first state title since winning a 3A crown in 1999.

"We're not going to overlook them," Logan said. "They have a great pitching staff, and Cox hasn't lost this year. I wish we'd played last week because we're hitting the ball so well, but we've had some good practices."

The Bearcats and Titans meet for the second time this season. Ridgeland won 6-1 in their regular-season contest.

Long Beach faces a red-hot Ridgeland squad that has won 26 straight games and cruised to a 5A North State title. The Titans (28-3) have two solid pitchers: Nick Johnson (11-0) and Stephen Joe (9-1).

"Ridgeland has good hitting and pitching," Ross said. "They have a great team."

The Bearcats have a solid one-two pitching rotation with Timmy Maloney (11-2, 130 strikeouts) and Michael Paul (6-6). Maloney is playing his best baseball, as are the Bearcats.

"The team get along great, has great chemistry, is very unselfish and pulls for each other," Ross said. "It's a combination of those things. It is why we're playing for a state title. Our run is great for the school, players, fans and coaches."

St. Stanislaus coach Mark Logan couldn't agree more with the Southern Miss signee, who has a 12-1 record with 129 strikeouts.

"If there is a better ball player than Boomer Scarborough (in Mis-

JONES TO 3D

JONES FROM 1D

issippi), I want to see them," Logan said. "He's a competitor."

Cannon, a junior, sees the Rockachaws senior class — Scarborough, pitcher Justin Vaughn, catcher Krisjon Wilkerson, first baseman Zander Romano and outfielder Michael Gemelli — as solid role models and great teammates.

"We want to win a state title for the seniors," Cannon said.

Vaughn (6-0) will get the

chance to wrap up the Rockachaws title and conclude his prep career unbeaten. The senior is excited about the opportunity.

"There's no pressure on me; I am ready to go," Vaughn said. "I'll go out there, throw strikes and rely on my defense."

My prediction: St. Stanislaus will clinch the title Thursday.

The Rockachaws' class of 2010 will earn championship medallions two days before earning their high school diplomas.

Gulf Coast Baseball School at St. Stanislaus Pitcher/Catcher Camp, May 31 and June 1, 1-3 p.m.; boys and girls, ages 8-15; \$40; instructors include Mark Logan, Erich Hoffer, Taylor LaFontaine; Mark Logan, 467-9057, ext. 533, or 467-3664 (leave message).

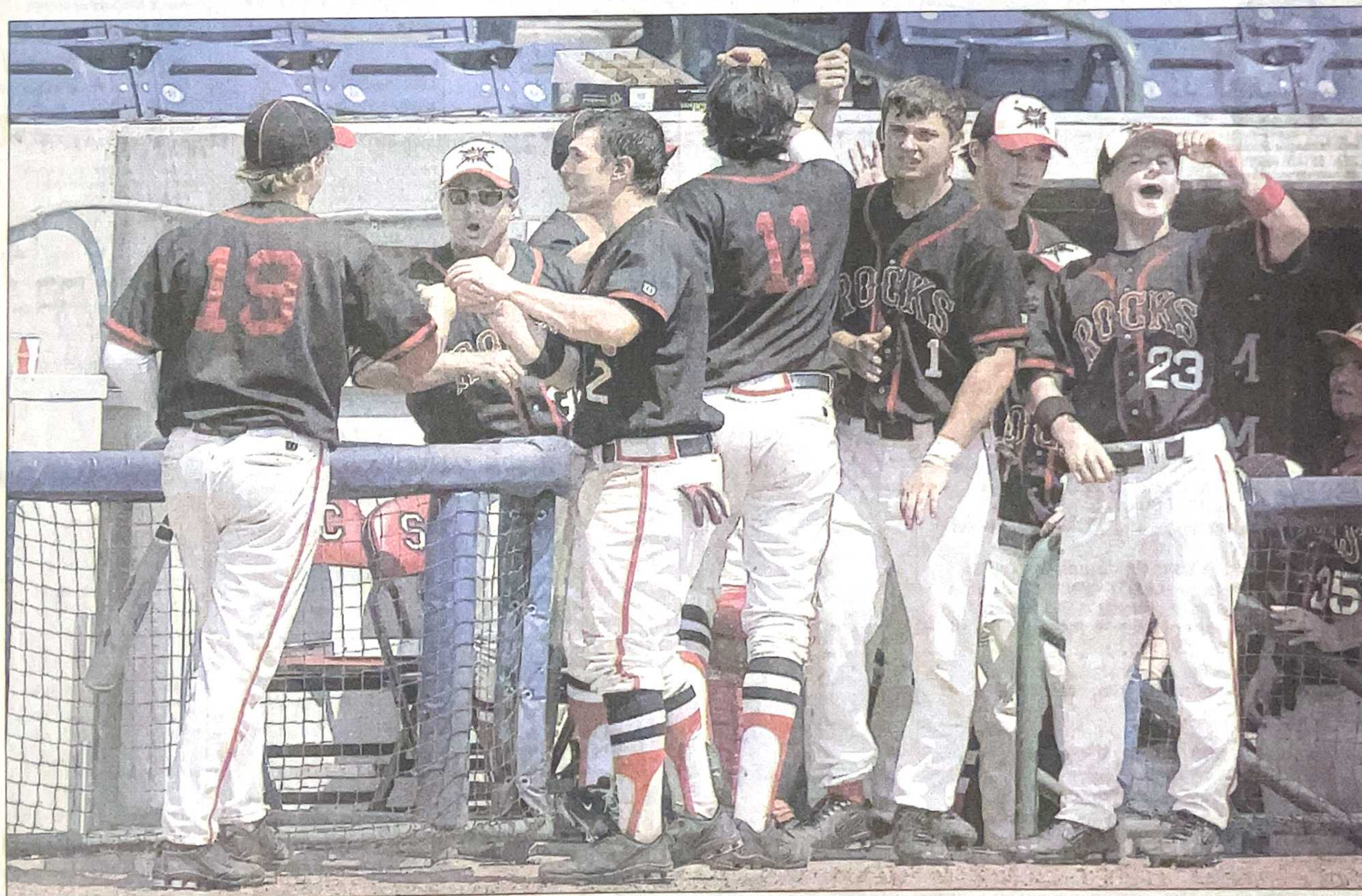
Sports

SECTION D

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26, 2010

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Sign of victory: Bunt



RICK GUY/THE CLARION-LEDGER

St. Stanislaus players celebrate after the Rockachaws score a run against Amory on Tuesday at Trustmark Park in Pearl.

Brennan lays down the hit that gives SSC 1-0 lead in 4A state finals

By JAMES JONES

jkjones@sunherald.com

PEARL — St. Stanislaus hasn't trailed in many baseball games this season.

So when Amory jumped out to a 4-0 lead in Game 1 of the Class 4A state championship series on Tuesday, the Rockachaws didn't push the panic button.

St. Stanislaus tied the game before Bo Brennan's bunt single in the sixth inning lifted the Rockachaws to a dramatic come-from-behind 5-4 victory at Trustmark Park.

St. Stanislaus (25-3) can clinch a state title with a victory on Thursday at 7 p.m.

"Winning the first game is the most important," Rockachaws coach Mark Logan said. "We didn't hit the ball well, but we got clutch hits."

Brennan, a third baseman, admitted his brain was overloaded during the Rockachaws' crucial at-bat.

"A lot of thoughts were inside my head at that moment," Brennan said. "When



RICK GUY/THE CLARION-LEDGER

Boomer Scarborough is now 12-1 after the Rockachaws rallied from being down 4-0.

Coach Logan signaled for me to bunt, I laid down the bat and just ran to first base. I knew that I'd get the bunt down and score the runner from third."

Boomer Scarborough (12-1) overcame his worst outing of the season to ignite a Rockachaws' rally with gutsy pitching.

He finished the game with nine strikeouts.

"It wasn't my best game," Scarborough said. "I'm so proud of my teammates taking up for me and making plays."

The Panthers (27-6) roughed up Scarborough in the third inning, jumping out to a 3-0 lead. Ryan Hill and Zack Randolph each had consecutive infield singles and Will Cox walked to load the bases.

Drew Pickle's two-run sin-

gle, followed by John Randle's RBI single, put the Panthers on the board.

Justin Rone's RBI single extended the Panthers' lead to 4-0 in the fourth.

St. Stanislaus rallied in the fourth, scoring four runs to tie the game at 4.

Jacob Lindgren's two-run double cut the Panthers' lead to 4-2. Mitch Theologos' two-run single tied the game at 4 off Will Cox (14-1).

"I felt good about our chances when we tied the game because Boomer's a competitor on the mound," Logan said.

Amory had one final chance to tie the game in the seventh when Cox singled and went to second on a groundball. The game ended when Randle flied out to left field.

St. Stanislaus catcher Krisjon Wilkerson praised the Rockachaws for not giving up and rallying behind Scarborough, a Southern Miss signee.

"It was a total team effort," Wilkerson said. "Everyone contributed today."

ST. STANISLAUS

5

AMORY

4

Championship baseball

Today's best-of-3 state tournament games:

Class 5A (Game 1):

Ridgeland vs. Long Beach, 10 a.m.

Class 2A (Game 2):

Hamilton vs. Richton, 1 p.m.

Class 1A (Game 2):

Myrtle vs. St. Aloysius, 4 p.m.

Class 6A (Game 1):

Madison Central vs. Petal, 7 p.m.

Where: Trustmark Park in Pearl

Admission: \$10

Note: The Long Beach-Ridgeland game will be streamed live on WOSMradio.com.

SPORTS, 1D

Long Beach, SSC win state titles



SUN HERALD'S 2010 HURRICANE SURVIVAL GUIDE

Today's Sun Herald helps residents prepare for this year's storm season, which begins Tuesday, including supplies for a hurricane kit, a checklist of things to do before, during and after the storm, how to take care of pets in a storm and the transportation available to shelters. **INSIDE, SECTION B**

Patriotic ceremonies, symphony concerts, motorcycle blowouts and more; plus, Bret Michaels makes his comeback tonight at Hard Rock, **MARQUEE**

Sun Herald

SOUTH MISSISSIPPI'S NEWSPAPER

THE COAST DOUBLES ITS PLEASURE

Long Beach, St. Stanislaus bring home state baseball championships



CHRIS TODD/CLARION LEDGER

Long Beach head coach Mark Ross hugs catcher Koby Ross before giving him a state championship gold medal after the Bearcats beat Ridgeland 2-1 for the Class 5A state baseball title Thursday at Trustmark Park in Pearl.

By JAMES JONES

jkjones@sunherald.com

PEARL — Coach Mark Ross has waited 20 years to bring a state baseball championship to Long Beach.

LONG BEACH

2

RIDGELAND

1

Long Beach (23-11) swept the Titans in two games, who entered the state finals with a 26-game winning streak.

Long Beach coach Mark Ross has been at his alma mater for 20 years and until this season, never played or coached for

a state title.

"You need to have chemistry, good players and a little luck to win a state title," Ross said. "Six weeks ago, we began to play defense and get timely hits. Timmy (Maloney) and Michael (Paul) are great leaders. It's real special for our community, fans and school administration."

The Bearcats' rally began in the sixth. Koby Ross singled and advanced to second on B.K. Hammons' sacrifice bunt. Paul was intentionally walked.

Garrett LaRosa reached on a fielder's choice and reached second after the Titans' throw landed in the dugout. Ross scored on the play. LaCoste's RBI single put the Bearcats ahead for good.

"The pitcher put a fastball in front of me and I hit it," LaRosa said. "Words can't describe winning this championship."

BEARCATS TO 6D



CHRIS TODD/CLARION LEDGER

Amory shortstop Forest Williams (right) flips the ball to second baseman Ryan Hill as St. Stanislaus' Boomer Scarborough slides safely in Thursday's game.

By JAMES JONES

jkjones@sunherald.com

PEARL — St. Stanislaus capped the greatest sports year in school history on Thursday, winning the Class 4A state baseball title.

The Rockachaws scored four fifth-inning runs en route to a 6-0 victory over Amory in the 4A state finals at Trustmark Park.

The Rockachaws (26-3) swept the best-of-3 series in two games, capturing their first-ever state baseball crown.

"Before the game I told the five seniors that I hoped this was their last sporting event at St. Stanislaus," Rockachaws coach Mark Logan said. "We had great leadership from the seniors and the underclassmen set good examples all year long."

Justin Vaughn (7-0) was solid on the mound, ending his senior year undefeated. He struck out five and allowed four hits in a complete game.

"We got a great performance from Vaughn," Logan said. "He missed a month with a broken hand. For him to shut out this team is amazing."

WEB EXTRA | For more photos from Thursday's championship games, visit sunherald.com

St. Stanislaus took a 1-0 lead in the third inning on Krisjon Wilkerson's sacrifice fly.

Amory had a chance to tie the game in the fourth, but Will Cox was thrown out at home plate after Drew Pickle singled.

The Panthers (27-7) never threatened again.

"It was a crucial play and could've given them momentum," Wilkerson said. "Kollin Cannon did a great job throwing to the plate."

St. Stanislaus did not waste their second bases-loaded opportunity in the fifth, scoring four runs for a comfortable 5-0 lead.

Zander Romano smacked a two-run double, while Mitch Theologos added a two-run single.

St. Stanislaus extended its lead to 6-0 on Wilkerson's RBI double.

The Rockachaws won 4A boys titles in football, soccer and baseball, while narrowly missing out on the basketball and tennis crowns.

Cannon and Boomer Scarborough are the only Rockachaws to win titles in baseball, football and soccer.

"It's so hard to put into words what we accomplished this year," Scarborough said. "We kept fighting and believed this would be our year."

Sports

WWW.SUNHERALD.COM

SECTION D

FRIDAY, MAY 28, 2010

BEARCATS FROM 1D

Paul (7-5) pitched a complete game, striking out five and allowing four hits.

"I played my heart out and left it all on the field," Paul said. "It feels so great winning the school's first state title in any sport."

Maloney (12-2), who shut down the Titans in a 2-1 victory on Wednesday, knew the Bearcats would come through.

"We didn't want to go a third game;

we wanted to end it in two," Maloney said. "I believed Michael would get the job done."

Ridgeland (29-5) got off to a strong start in the fifth as Nick Johnson singled to open the inning. He advanced to second on a passed ball.

The Titans took a 1-0 lead on Jarrett Jenkins' RBI triple.

That set the stage for Long Beach to deliver the school's first state title in baseball.

Sports

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SECTION D

THURSDAY, MAY 27, 2010



The Long Beach Bearcats celebrate their 2-1 victory over Ridgeland in Wednesday's first game of the Class 5A championship series.

CHRIS TODD/CLARION-LEDGER

LONG BEACH'S MAGIC MAN

Maloney works out of two precarious situations to lead Bearcat win

By JAMES JONES
jkjones@sunherald.com

PEARL — Timmy Maloney played the role of a magician in Long Beach's opening game of the Class 5A state baseball championship series.

Maloney survived two bases-loaded situations as the Bearcats defeated Ridgeland 2-1 on Wednesday at Trustmark Park.

LONG BEACH

2

RIDGELAND

1

Long Beach (22-11) tries to capture its first-ever state title with a victory today at 4 p.m.

"It was a gutty win," Bearcats coach Mark Ross said. "That's what you expected with two great pitchers on the mound (Maloney and Nick Johnson). Both guys did their jobs."

Maloney (12-2) shut down the Titans in a sparkling complete game, snapping their 26-game winning streak. He scattered four hits, struck out five, finishing with a Coast-leading 134 strikeouts.

"This is the best game I ever pitched because it's my last one to throw at Long Beach," Maloney said.

"I was very nervous because I never pitched in the morning before. I've always pitched in the afternoon or nights."

BEARCATS TO 5D



CHRIS TODD/CLARION-LEDGER

Timmy Maloney allowed just four hits and struck out four to lead Long Beach to a 2-1 win over Ridgeland on Wednesday in the Game 1 of the Class 5A baseball state championship series at Trustmark Park.

Bearcats tantalizingly close to state title

PEARL

Long Beach has never won a state title in any team sport.

The Bearcat baseball players can taste the Class 5A championship on the tip of their tongues.

COLUMN



James Jones
jkjones@sunherald.com

If the Bearcats (22-11) beat Ridgeland today, they will bring home a Gold championship trophy to Long Beach.

Long Beach coach Mark Ross isn't putting the cart before the horse.

"It feels just as good when we were two wins away," Ross said. "There's no thinking at this point. Either you want to play or you don't. It's that simple."

JONES TO 5D

Championship baseball

Today's lineup for the state baseball championship games at Trustmark Park in Pearl (all are

best of 3 series):

Class 3A (Game 2): Water Valley vs. Sumrall, 10 a.m.

Class 6A (Game 2): Madison Central vs. Petal, 1 p.m.

Class 5A (Game 2): Ridgeland vs.

Long Beach, 4 p.m.

Class 4A (Game 2): Amory vs. St. Stanislaus, 7 p.m.



WEB EXTRA | For

JONES FROM 1D

Michael Paul (6-6) gets the opportunity to wrap up Long Beach's title, and the All-South Mississippi performer wouldn't have it any other way.

"I'm not nervous," Paul said. "I'm ready to get out there and helping us win a championship. It's an honor."

Timmy Maloney, the Bearcats' Game 1 winner, loves how his senior season has unfolded.

"It's an honor to be playing for the school's first title," Maloney said. "I'm real happy about that."

The three remaining members of the Bearcats' senior class — left fielder B.K. Hammons, second baseman Cameron Powell and cen-

ter fielder Chase Lunsford — always had championship aspirations.

"Coach Ross told us three years ago that we'd be the class to win a state title," Lunsford said. "I never thought about that until we reached the state finals."

Added Powell: "The five seniors are what kept this team together through our leadership."

Entering the championship series, I felt that Long Beach would need all three games to win a state title.

I still feel that way, as the Bearcats will celebrate Memorial Day weekend with their state crown.

"Other than being on top of the world, there's no other way to describe this feeling of a championship," Hammons said.

visit sunherald.com

High Schools MHSAA Baseball Championships

Class 4A St. Stanislaus 6, Amory 0

Rock-a-chaws, Vaughn rock

By Kareem Copeland

kareemcopeland@clarionledger.com

PEARL — Does winning championships ever get old?

Does any title feel any better than another?

Is it enough just to be asked the question?

St. Stanislaus won the MHSAA Class 4A baseball championship Thursday with a 6-0 victory over Amory in front of an announced 800 at Trustmark Park.

The Rock-a-chaws now have 2009-10 state titles in baseball, football and soccer. Not to mention a runner-up finish in basketball.

"Tonight I told the guys before the game, I hope this is your last athletic event at St. Stanislaus," coach Mark Logan said.

Stars Kollin Cannon, Krisjon Wilkerson, Boomer Scarborough and Zander Romano were all members of other championship teams this year, but senior Justin Vaughn is simply a baseball player. The pitcher missed a month of the season with a broken hand and this was his lone chance to jump in the celebratory pile with his teammates.

Vaughn got the start Thursday night and proceeded to throw a shutout, allowing just four hits in the process.

"I wanted to bring one home, too" Vaughn (7-0) said. "They're gonna need a new (trophy case)."

"This is probably the best year to come through our community. A lot of state championships."



Chris Todd/The Clarion-Ledger

St. Stanislaus teammates congratulate Jacob Lindgren, who had two hits, after he scored against Amory.

Trailing 1-0 in the fourth inning, Amory was on the verge of rallying and was certainly still in the game. Michael Gemelli hit a ball deep in the gap when St. Stanislaus second baseman Cannon made an amazing stop to keep the ball from reaching the outfield.

Amory coach Chad Williams thought the ball had gotten through and sent Will Cox, who was coming into third from second, home.

Cox was gunned down three steps before he could even think of sliding. Suddenly, instead of having runners on the corners with no outs, Amory had only a runner on first with one out.

"Not taking nothing away from them, but I'd love to play against them again," Williams said. "I think that took the air out of us pretty bad."

"My mess-up really hurt."

Drew Pickle (7-4) took the loss.

St. Stanislaus took advantage with a four-run fifth and ended any hopes of Amory forcing a Game 3.

Scarborough, a Dandy Dozen selection, started it all with a two-out infield single, beating out a ground ball to the shortstop. Lawrence Bourgeois followed with an infield single of his own before Jacob Lindgren (2-for-3) worked a walk to load the bases.

Romano continued his game-changing efforts from Game 1 with a two-RBI double to shallow left field. Mitch Theologos promptly knocked a single into center field for two more insurance runs.

Championship.

"We believed all along this was our season and this was ours to lose," Scarborough said.

Sports

SECTION C
SATURDAY, MAY 29, 2010

Diamond heroes bring glory to schools, Coast

PEARL

State baseball champions from the Coast have recently have come in pairs.

Long Beach and St. Stanislaus captured the Class 5A and 4A state titles on Thursday at Trustmark Park. The Bearcats swept Ridgeland for the 5A title. The Rockachaws beat Amory for the 4A crown.

The Bearcats and Rockachaws joined East Central and Ocean Springs as the only schools to capture the 5A and 4A crowns in the same year.

The Hornets and Greyhounds swept the two titles in 2008.

The symbolism of Coastwide support was visible in the stands as the Rockachaws were putting the finishing touches to a sweep over Amory.

A Coast resident held a broom, swept the dugout and screamed at the top of his lungs: "It's a Coast

COLUMN



James Jones

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sweep, baby!"

Long Beach Athletic Director Terry D'Angelo couldn't contain her emotions watching the Bearcats earn the school's first state title in any sport.

D'Angelo, who played basketball at Long Beach and also doubles as the Lady Bearcats' hoops coach, joined the joyous celebration on the field.

Long Beach (23-11) has one of the Coast's best baseball traditions, which includes the Babe Ruth league.

Gary Rath, Chris Reini-ke and Bearcats coach

Mark Ross are among the former standouts who grew up playing in the city league.

Rath played briefly in the major leagues and is now coach at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College.

Timmy Maloney, Mark DeCena and Michael Paul are the latest in a outstanding city-league system.

"We have a great feeder program," Ross said. "Winning this title is special for our community. We have great support from the school administration and our fans."

St. Stanislaus doesn't have a rich baseball tradition like Long Beach, but the Rockachaws always compete with the Coast's elite.

Rockachaws coach Mark Logan did not celebrate until Justin Vaughn struck out the final Amory batter.

When Logan played at St. Stanislaus, he didn't

think the Rockachaws would capture a state baseball title.

The Rockachaws' senior class — Boomer Scarborough, Krisjon Wilkerson, Vaughn, Michael Gemelli and Zander Romano — proved Logan wrong.

"It's incredible; I never thought we'd win a state title," Logan said. "We had a special group of players."

St. Stanislaus capped the greatest year of any Coast athletic school, playing for all five team-sanctioned titles and winning three.

Scarborough and Kollin Cannon played on the football, soccer and baseball title teams.

"I don't think you'll ever see this happen again here," one Rockachaw parent said during the wild championship celebration.

The Rockachaws and Bearcats set a standard of excellence at their schools that probably won't be topped for a while.



CHRIS TODD/CLARION-LEDGER

St. Stanislaus teammates congratulate Jacob Lindgren after he scored in Thursday's game against Amory.

NEIGHBORS

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OUR LADY ACADEMY STUDENTS DELEGATE LEGISLATIVE DUTIES

Thirty-seven Our Lady Academy junior high students attended as delegates the 33rd session of the YMCA Junior Youth Legislature in Jackson. One senior and six junior officers also attended the session: Hannah Anderson, senior adviser; Katy Barlow, secretary of senate; Melissa Blalock, assistant secretary of senate; Stephanie Burnison, assistant senate messenger; Virginia Comer, senate sergeant at arms; Kendall McDonald, first lady; and Samantha Spiers, executive secretary. Out of 18 bills written and submitted by the OLA delegates, eight were signed by the youth governor. These bills were written by these delegates: Carrie Mullins and Nicki Reeder;



Erin Hale and Emily DiLorenzo; Holly Raymond and Kendall Ritten; Delery Mann and Sarah Anderson; Amy Love and Casey McLeod; Katy McNally and Mary Margaret Gagnet; Anna Taconi and Jenny Byrne; and Sydney Gargiulo and Courtney Geroux. The bill written by Amy Love and Casey McLeod was a governor's platform bill. Three OLA students were recognized as Outstanding Senators and were presented with a gavel and certificate: Mary Margaret Gagnet, Courtney Geroux and Ava Wolf. Other OLA delegates were recognized as Outstanding Representatives and received certificates: Amy Love, Sara Luther, Anna Taconi and Emma Welch. Mary Margaret Gagnet was recognized as the Most Outstanding Committee Chair, and Nicki Reeder was recognized as the Most Outstanding Legislator. Recognized as the Outstanding Statesman, (the highest honor awarded to a delegate by the advisers), was Mary Margaret Gagnet. The other seventh-grade students who attended the Jr. Youth Legislature session were Natalie Brown, Gloria Carniero, Kaley Geroux, Abby Gollott, Gina Grotkowski, Emma Holland, Mattie Huey, Megan Krynen, Katherine Kyriakoudes, Sarah Reed, Sofia Tacon, and Jenna Trapani. Other ninth grade OLA delegates were Claire Burkes, Amanda Hufft, Lauren Liebkemann, Sara Luther, Harley Miller, Erika Rigby, Madison Schloemer, and Ava Wolfe. Regina Gleber and Leslie Burge were the OLA advisers who accompanied the OLA Delegation. First row, from left: Anderson, Mann, Gargiulo, Geroux, Welch, Erin Hale, Emily DiLorenzo; second row: Kendall Ritten, Holly Raymond; third row: Byrne, Taconi, Wolf, Reeder, Carolyn Mullins, McNally, Luther, Love, McLeod and Gagnet.

6B WEDNESDAY, JULY 14, 2010

High school All-Star games wrap up this week

By JAMES JONES

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The Mississippi All-Star games will conclude this week.

Twenty South Mississippi players were chosen for the sixth annual Volleyball All-Star game, which will be played tonight at 7:30 at Mississippi College.

For the first time, the game will have a junior and senior format. The Coast has its largest representation for the game.

Our Lady Academy, which won the 1A-2A-3A title, has two players chosen for the junior game, Callie McNally and Erin Gibson. Sisters Brittany and Victoria Nutting represent Hancock.

Other juniors chosen were Morgan Wesson (Gulfport), Allison McCaleb (Long Beach), Neely Gad-



Schmitt

dy (St. Patrick) and Presley Owens (Vancleave). Biloxi, Hancock, Long Beach, St. Patrick each have two players in the senior game. Courtney Pollock of Long Beach will coach the South seniors. David Irwin of Hancock will coach the South juniors. Briana Dubaz and Monique Ransom lead the Lady Indians.

Renee Lee and Erin Ross are from Hancock. Chrissy Slade and Allison Ladner are from Long Beach.

Briana Dubaz and Naquel Jаланavich lead the Lady Irish.

Kirsty Schmitt (OLA), Danielle Taft (Vancleave) and Cassie Featherston (Gulfport) are the other seniors.

Schmitt was named the Sun Herald's Player of the Year. She was a member of four OLA state championship teams in volleyball and also won a soccer crown.

Tennis tournament: The All-Star tournament will be held Thursday at Parham Bridges Center in Jackson

at 1 p.m. The North-South format will be used.

The South squad will be led by Dale Neaves of St. Martin.

Neaves will coach five Coast players, including two Stone and Ocean Springs players.

David Bella and Andre Wawszczuk led the Greyhounds to the Class 6A state title. Matt Cannady and Tyler Wabel represent the Tomcats.

Erin Kenna of St. Martin is also on the team.

OLA HOLDS SPANISH HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTION



Fifteen Our Lady Academy Spanish II students were inducted into the OLA Chapter of the Sociedad Honoraria Hispanica. New members, from left, front row: sophomores Emily McDermott, Mattison Scardino, Caroline Collins, Reagan Huey, Margaret Artigues; middle row: Jordan Benvenutti, Shelby Peranich, Samantha Spiers, Cali Longo; and back row: Darby Raybourn, Allison Ariatti, Ashleigh Hoda, Kristin Morel and Denise Powell. Not pictured: senior Sarah Haas. Spanish IV members of the chapter, Kaitlin Collins, Alexis Leach and Nico Ramirez, conducted the induction ceremony. After a candle-lighting ceremony, the new members received OLA Spanish Honor Society pins and membership cards. A reception followed. OLA joined the Sociedad in 2000, becoming the Santa Teresa de Avila Chapter. The charter was reinstated in 2006 following the losses of Hurricane Katrina. Marie Bartels, a teacher for 35 years, has taught Spanish I-III at Our Lady Academy since 1996.

OLA Latin II students join National Latin Honor Society, receive national awards

Three Our Lady Academy Latin II students were inducted into the OLA Monsignor Gregory J. Johnson Chapter of the National Latin Honor Society by Sister M. Elisa Bauman, RSM, OLA Latin teacher.

Sophomore Kolleen Aicklen and juniors Melissa Fay and Helen Kyriakoudes met the grade average criteria for both Latin I and II and received their Testamur Certificates of membership, Latin APSL pins and copies of

the OLA Charter, which OLA received in 1995.

Two of the inductees also received recognition from the National Latin Exam taken during the school year. Aicklen was presented a Cum Laude Certificate for her achievement in the Latin II level of the National Latin Exam. Kyriakoudes received a commendation for achieving the national average on the Latin II Exam. Both students received a Cum Laude Certificate last

year for performance in the Latin I level of the National Latin Exam.

Officers of the OLA Chapter of the Latin Honor Society, all juniors, conducted the induction ceremony, giving the history and purpose of the society and leading the inductees in their pledge. The OLA Latin Honor Society officers for 2009-10 are Saiva Baker, Melissa Blalock, Stephanie Burnison, Virginia Comer, Erin Gibson and Hanna Schloemer.



The Our Lady Academy Latin II students inducted into the OLA Monsignor Gregory J. Johnson Chapter of the National Latin Honor Society, from left: Helen Kyriakoudes, Melissa Fay and Kolleen Aicklen. Kyriakoudes and Aicklen also received recognition from the National Latin Exam.

St. Stanislaus to offer 13th year

St. Stanislaus College, a Catholic residency and day school for boys, will offer a post-graduate resident year of high school beginning with the 2010-11 school year. St. Stanislaus, founded in 1854, is an independent Catholic school in Bay St. Louis. Operated by the Brothers of the Sacred Heart and their lay partners, the school specializes in building character and helping young men develop to their full potential.

With 13th year applicants having already attained a high school diploma, a post-graduate student could create a course schedule that would meet his academic needs, interests and college requirements. In addition to enrolling in traditional SSC courses, such as religion, English, math, science and social studies, post-graduate students will have the ability to take specialty courses with college readiness in mind: ACT/SAT prep, resume writing, college essay writing, basic math skills, physical conditioning, etc. Details: www.ststan.com.

St. Stanislaus racks up records

By AL JONES
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St. Stanislaus College

Valedictorian: Charlie Pritchard
Salutatorians: Andrew Gargiulo and Ryan Ruhr
Class size: 75
Principal: Brother Ronald Hingle
Quote: "It was the year of the Rocks." — Charlie Pritchard

BAY ST. LOUIS — St. Stanislaus College closed out one of the most successful school years on record Saturday with graduation ceremonies.

The senior class earned more than \$5 million in scholarships in the classroom, and the athletic teams combined to win three 4A state championships and played for others.

"It was the year of the Rocks," valedictorian Charlie Pritchard said. "We had some great times."

"I told my classmates that it was full of great times, all the way back to our seventh grade when it all started. I also challenged them to change the world."

Salutatorians were Andrew Gargiulo and Ryan Ruhr.

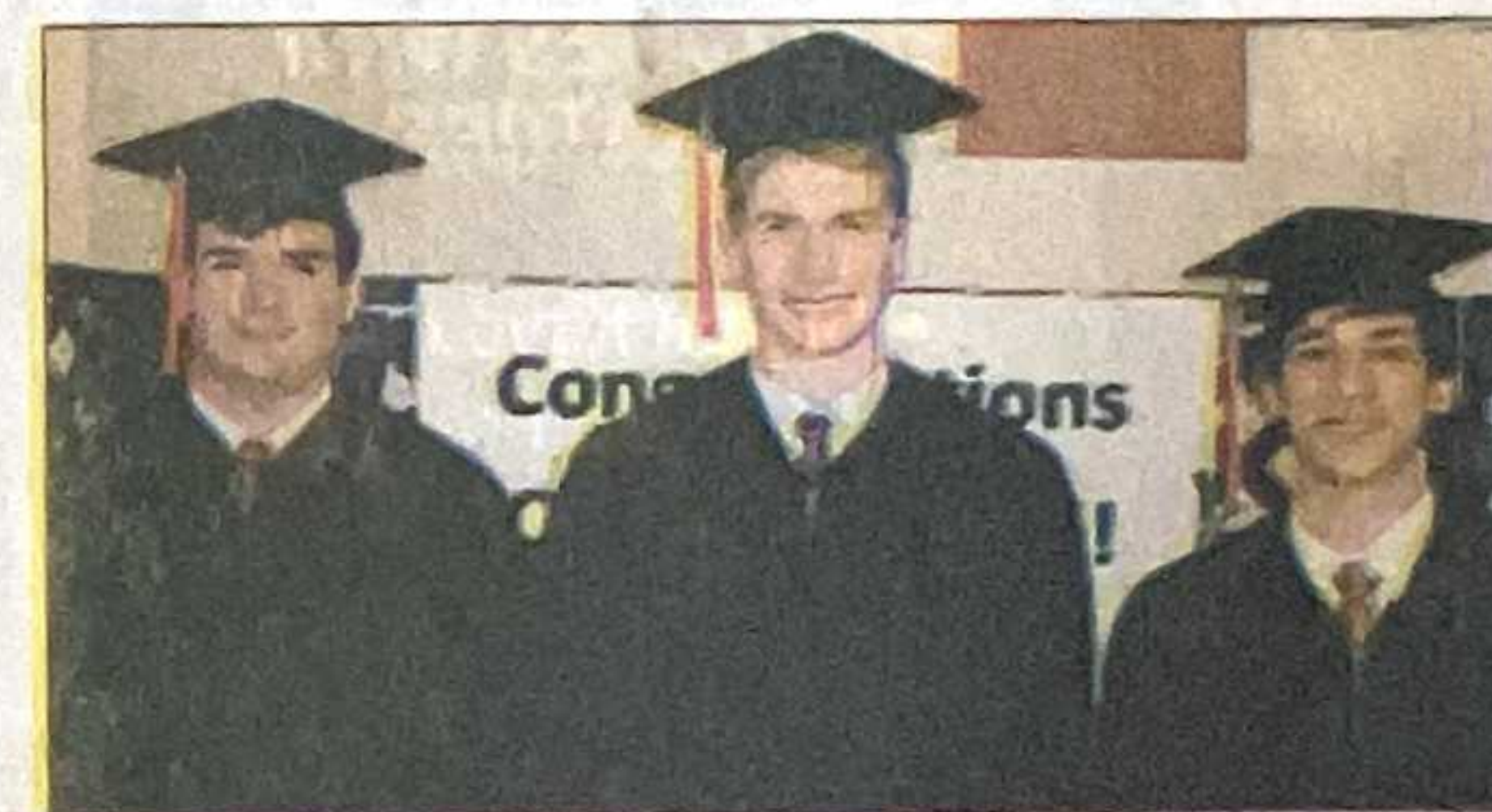
"This was a special class," Gargiulo said. "We had two (salutatorians) because Ryan

and myself had the exact grades all four years. We both had straight A's except one B."

Principal Brother Ronald Hingle praised Pritchard, Gargiulo and Ruhr.

"All three graduated with honors," Hingle said. "This class received \$5.2 million of scholarships, which is a record in my 14 years. Our athletic teams were second to none."

"This is a class of character and integrity."



SSC valedictorian Charlie Pritchard, left, and salutatorians Ryan Ruhr and Andrew Gargiulo.

AL JONES/SUN HERALD

Women of OLA aspire to 'living a successful life'

By REBEKAH GOOLSBY
Special to the Sun Herald

BAY ST. LOUIS — Relatives, friends and faculty of Our Lady Academy gathered Saturday at Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic Church to witness the 2010 graduation.

The ceremony began with a Mass led by Bishop Roger Morin, who urged the class to continue to develop their character and wisdom on the foundation Our Lady Academy has given them.

After the Mass, the salutatorian, Sarah Haas, addressed the graduates.

"We stand here today as women transformed," she said. "We are all well-rounded women of faith and character."

She reminded her classmates they all are powerful women who have excelled throughout their high school career.

"Do not only watch the show of your lives, but be the main character," she said.

After the diplomas were given, the valedictorian, Paige Muse, gave her speech.

"We are women who have overcome obstacles together and we have learned from one another," she said.

"It is now our turn to bless our parents by living a successful life."



REBEKAH GOOLSBY/SPECIAL TO THE SUN HERALD
Valedictorian Paige Muse, left, and salutatorian Sarah Haas

Our Lady Academy

Valedictorian: Paige Elizabeth Muse, daughter of Rob and Patrice Muse

Salutatorian: Sarah Haas, daughter of Michael and Barbie Haas

Class size: 26

Principal: Sue Goggins

Quote: "We must never allow our struggles to take our faith but to strengthen it." — Paige Muse

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL NOTEBOOK

Double players

All-Star day features 4A-5A-6A in opener, 1A-2A-3A in nightcap at Trustmark Park

By JAMES JONES

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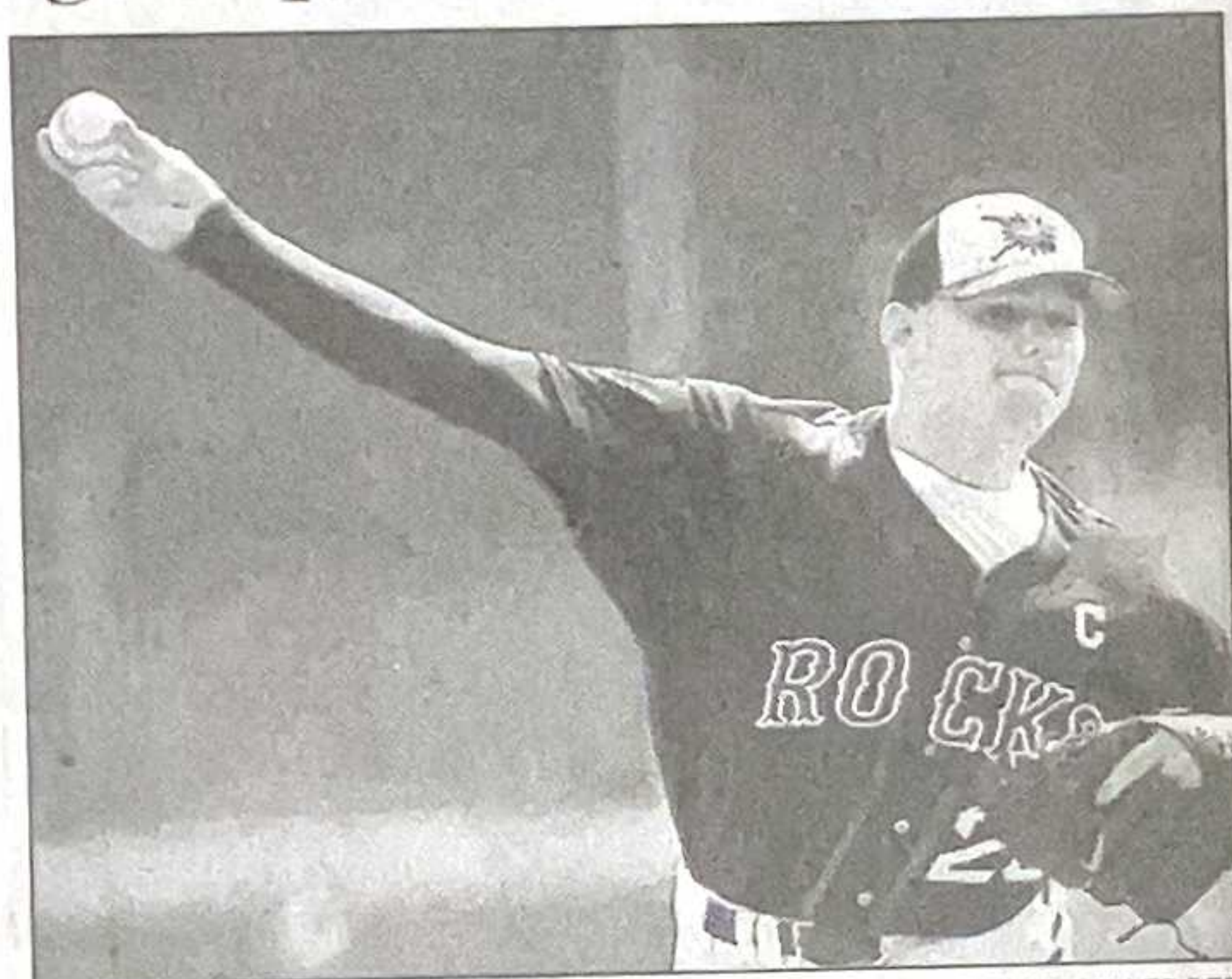
St. Stanislaus pitcher Boomer Scarborough will return to the scene of his greatest baseball triumph this weekend.

Scarborough will play in the Class 4A-5A-6A All-Star Baseball Classic on Saturday at Pearl's Trustmark Park. The 4A-5A-6A doubleheader will start at 1 p.m. First pitch for the 1A-2A-3A contest is at 6 p.m.

The senior went 12-1 as the Rockchaws (25-3) won the 4A state title last week, sweeping Amory. He also hit a Coast-leading 15 homers and struck out 129 batters.

"Winning state titles in soccer and football was great, but baseball is more my sport," Scarborough said.

Scarborough, a Southern Miss signee, will be joined by Harrison Central first baseman Wes Rea, Picayune catcher Jay Dedeaux and Pascagoula's Daniel Miles on the South squad coached by Joey Ward (West Jones) and Charlie Williams (Natchez).



RICK GUY/THE CLARION-LEDGER

St. Stanislaus pitcher Boomer Scarborough.

Rea, who hit 11 homers, signed with Mississippi State. Miles signed with South Alabama.

"I'll be busy this summer with baseball," said Dedeaux, who'll play at Jones Junior College next year.

Two St. Patrick players — Joey Lacy and Joey Harris — are on the 1A-2A-3A South squad coached by Hamer Morgan (Forest) and Brandon Davis (Richton).

The two Joeys helped St.

John win the Class 1A state title in 2007. The school closed and merged with Mercy Cross to form St. Patrick.

Coaching changes: St. Patrick recently named Kim LeTort as its next baseball coach. LeTort is a former St. Martin football coach and succeeds Joe Sam Owen, who retired after the season ended.

Gautier, D'Iberville and Pascagoula have baseball openings at their schools.

Diamond seniors get last chance to shine

St. Patrick hosts All-Star Baseball Classic tonight

By DOUG BARBER

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A fixture of summer will take place tonight when the annual South Mississippi All-Star Baseball Classic Seniors Game takes the field at St. Patrick High School.

The first pitch is set for 7

p.m. The game was originally scheduled to be played at St. Martin High School but wet grounds forced the move.

This game was founded in 1989 as a chance for Coast seniors to get a chance to showcase their talents one last time for college baseball scouts. Former Florida State football star Terrell Buckley played in the inaugural game.

Gulfport's Tim Dowdy is coaching the West Seniors, and his assisted by Long Beach's Mac Patton and Matt



Paul



Welter

Ross. Moss Point's Matt Cochran is coaching the East Seniors, along with Jason Hockaday of D'Iberville.

Biloxi first baseman Drew Welter is one of those players who may be playing in his final high school game. He

Inside

Rosters, 2C

is undecided whether he will play on the collegiate level. He hit .320 this past season.

"I finished exactly as I wanted it," Welter said. "I got most improved last year (2009), and I did better this year. In the game, I plan to stay focused, drive the ball and don't try to kill it. I will relax and have fun."

The West All-Star include pitchers Timmy Maloney

and Michael Paul from Long Beach's 5A state championship team. There will be three players — Krisjon Wilkerson, Justin Vaughn and Zander Romano — from St. Stanislaus' 4A state championship team. Paul hit 10 homers this past season, and two of them came in St. Patrick's ballpark.

"I'm just going to go out there and play some baseball, and have some fun," Paul said.

"I'm just getting to know the players," Dowdy said

"We have guys who won state championships. The players have seen good pitching day-in and day-out on the Coast. I've been in a lot of areas and this is one of best areas in the state for baseball."

"This will be a chance for kids to showcase their talents. There won't be a lot of bunting. There won't be a lot of trickery that we do in the regular season."

"These guys have played baseball all their lives and I expect them to show their best baseball (Saturday) night."





Senior Abi Simpson crowns the statue of Mary.



Juniors show off their rings. From left, Emily Sramek, Whitney St. Mary, Virginia Comer, Juliana Arroyo, Samantha Spiers and Shelby Peranich.

OLA students hold May ceremonies

Our Lady Academy in Bay St. Louis recently held the Crowning of the Blessed Mother and the presentation of class rings to the junior class at Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic Church.

Susan Goggins, OLA principal, gave a formal introduction to the two ceremonies. Members of the class of

2010, dressed in white graduation robes, held a prayer service titled "Women of Christianity."

The readers were Kirsty Schmitt, Abi Simpson, Katherine Santa Cruz and Elizabeth Currie. Students who led the responses were Madison Conaway, Ashton LaRosa, Alexis Leach and Nik-

ki Wild.

Haleigh Treutel introduced the May Crowning Ceremony. Chosen by the senior class, Abi Simpson crowned the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary during the singing of "Immaculate Mary." After the crowning of Mary, Sarah Haas, president of the senior class, led the student

body in the "Act of Consecration to the Blessed Virgin." Kaitlin Collins, student body president, introduced the Junior Ring Ceremony. Sister M. Elisa Bauman, campus ministry coordinator, read the Prayer for the Blessing of Rings as the senior class extended their hands over the juniors' rings.

Sports

SECTION B

WWW.SUNHERALD.COM

MONDAY, JUNE 7, 2010



The Sun Herald's All-Coast softball team. Front row, from left, Michelle Stringer, Tisa Smith, Ilijah Hargrove, Heather Hester and Demi Blaker. Back row, from left, Allison McCaleb, Lindsey Webb, Morgan Fairley, Jennifer Gary and Janessa Dedeaux. Not pictured: Kris Albritton, Heather Beesley and Ashley Hickman.

AMANDA MCCOY/SUN HERALD

THE SUN HERALD'S ALL-SOUTH MISSISSIPPI FAST-PITCH TEAM

By JAMES JONES

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George County dominated the Sun Herald's All-South Mississippi Fast Pitch Softball team.

Pitcher-Outfielder Morgan Fairley was named the Sun Herald's player of the year, while Bruce Thornton took the coach of the year honors.

Stone, which made the 5A South State Finals, was led by pitcher Heather Beesley.

Underclassmen pitchers Demi Blaker of Our Lady Academy (eighth-grader) and Jennifer Gary of St. Patrick (sophomore) making their second straight spot on the All-South Mississippi team.

For a closer look at the All-South Mississippi team, 3B.



Albritton

Kris Albritton
Position: pitcher/ first baseman
School: Gulfport
Class: Senior
Stats: .351 average, 17 RBI



Hester

Heather Hester
Position: pitcher
School: Hancock
Class: Senior
Stats: 11-9, 168 strikeouts, .343 average



Beesley

Heather Beesley
Position: Pitcher
School: Stone
Class: Junior
Stats: 17-5 record, 155 strikeouts.



Hargrove

Ijliah Hargrove
Position: shortstop
School: Harrison Central
Class: Senior
Stats: .376 average, 14 stolen bases



Blaker

Demi Blaker
Position: Pitcher
School: OLA
Class: Eighth-grader
Stats: .525 average, 37 RBIs, 86 strikeouts, 13-13, six shutouts



McCaleb

Allison McCaleb
Position: Pitcher
School: Long Beach
Class: Junior
Stats: 19-3 record, 160 strikeouts, .389 average



Dedeaux

Janessa Dedeaux
Position: catcher
School: Poplarville
Class: Senior
Stats: .444 average, three homers, three triples, 30 RBI



Smith

Tisa Smith
Position: outfielder
School: Biloxi
Class: Junior
Stats: .555 average, 23 stolen bases in 23 attempts



Gary

Jennifer Gary
Position: Pitcher
School: St. Patrick
Class: sophomore
Stats: 8-9, 135 strikeouts



Stringer

Michelle Stringer
Position: pitcher
School: Bay High
Class: sophomore
Stats: .500 average, 20 stolen bases, 6-5 record, 83 strikeouts.



Fairley

Morgan Fairley
Position: pitcher/ outfielder
School: George County
Class: Junior
Stats: .495 average, 42 stolen bases, 45 runs, 24 RBI, five triples, 6-3 record.



Webb

Lindsey Webb
Position: second base
School: Vancleave
Class: Junior
Stats: .415 average, 3 homers



Hickman

Ashley Hickman
Position: second base
School: St. Martin
Class: sophomore



AMANDA McCOY/SUN HERALD

Pitcher-outfielder Morgan Fairley of George County was named the Sun Herald's player of the year.

Breaking the mold

Fairley, Thornton sweep top honors

By JAMES JONES
 jkjones@sunherald.com

Pitchers have usually dominated the Sun Herald's fast-pitch softball player of the year honors. For the first time this year, a pitcher won't land the coveted honor.

George County outfielder Morgan Fairley ended the pitchers' five-year grip on the prestigious award, edging out junior pitchers Heather Beesley (Stone) and Allison McCaleb (Long Beach).

Lady Rebels coach Bruce Thornton was named the Sun Herald's coach of the year.

Savannah French of Long Beach earned the Sun Herald's first player of the honor award. East Central's Lindsey Dickerson won the Sun Herald's last three player of the year honors.

Fairley had a record-setting junior campaign, including batting average (.495), stolen bases (41) and runs scored (45) as George County reached the 6A South State Championship series.

"I didn't expect to get this

honor," Fairley said. "But it means a lot, especially that we had a state title under our noses. I enjoyed playing on this team; we got along real well."

Thornton considered Fairley as the key that drives the Lady Rebels' ignition.

"The best way to describe Fairley: she's a five-tool player," Thornton said. "She can hit with power, steal bases, field, play defense. She was our offensive catalyst. She creates runs by getting on base. She's an outstanding athlete who worked really hard."

Fairley occasionally pitches for the Lady Rebels, especially in crucial games. The Lady Rebels needed a victory over Brandon in the 6A quarterfinals to keep their season alive, and Fairley delivered.

"I'm always ready to go," Fairley said. "I'll go wherever coach Thornton puts me. I love being a pitcher the most because it all starts with me."

Thornton edged Sam Compston of Stone and Poplar-



AMANDA McCOY/SUN HERALD

George County's Bruce Thornton was named the Sun Herald's coach of the year.

ville's Jonathan Ray for coach of the year. The Lady Rebels (20-10) advanced to the State Semifinals for the first time in school history.

"It's nice to get recognition for the fast pitch program," Thornton said. "I had a great group of players that I enjoyed coaching. It meant a lot for us to reach the South State."

Thornton brings a winning formula to whatever sport he chooses to coach.

He coached the Rebels' baseball team to a 4A state title in 1997. That same year, he led the Lady Rebels to a 4A slow pitch crown. The year before, he coached the Lady Rebels' basketball program to the 4A State semifinals.

"I graduated from George County in 1985; it's home for me and my family," Thornton said. "It's the only coach that I've coached. We've got great kids to work with at George County."

10 Our Lady Academy, Bay St. Louis

Gulf Pine Catholic • May 28, 2010



OLA juniors enthusiastically show off their new rings after the OLA Ring Ceremony. They are, l-r, Emily Sramek, Whitney St. Mary, Virginia Comer, Juliana Arroyo, Samantha Spiers, and Shelby Peranich.



OLA Senior Abi Simpson crowned the statue of Mary in Our Lady Academy's May Crowning Ceremony.

Our Lady Academy held its Crowning of the Blessed Mother and the presentation of class rings to the Junior Class on May 3 in the Our Lady of the Gulf Church. Susan Goggins, OLA principal, gave a formal introduction to the two ceremonies.

Members of the Class of 2010, dressed in their white graduation robes, conducted a prayer service entitled "Women of Christianity." Readers were Kirsty Schmitt, Abi Simpson, Katherine Santa Cruz, and Elizabeth Currie. Students who led the responses were: Madison Conaway, Ashton LaRosa, Alexis Leach, and Nikki Wild.

Abi Simpson crowned the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary during the singing of "Immaculate Mary."

Following the crowning of Mary, Sarah Haas, Senior Class president, led the student body in the "Act of Consecration to the Blessed Virgin."

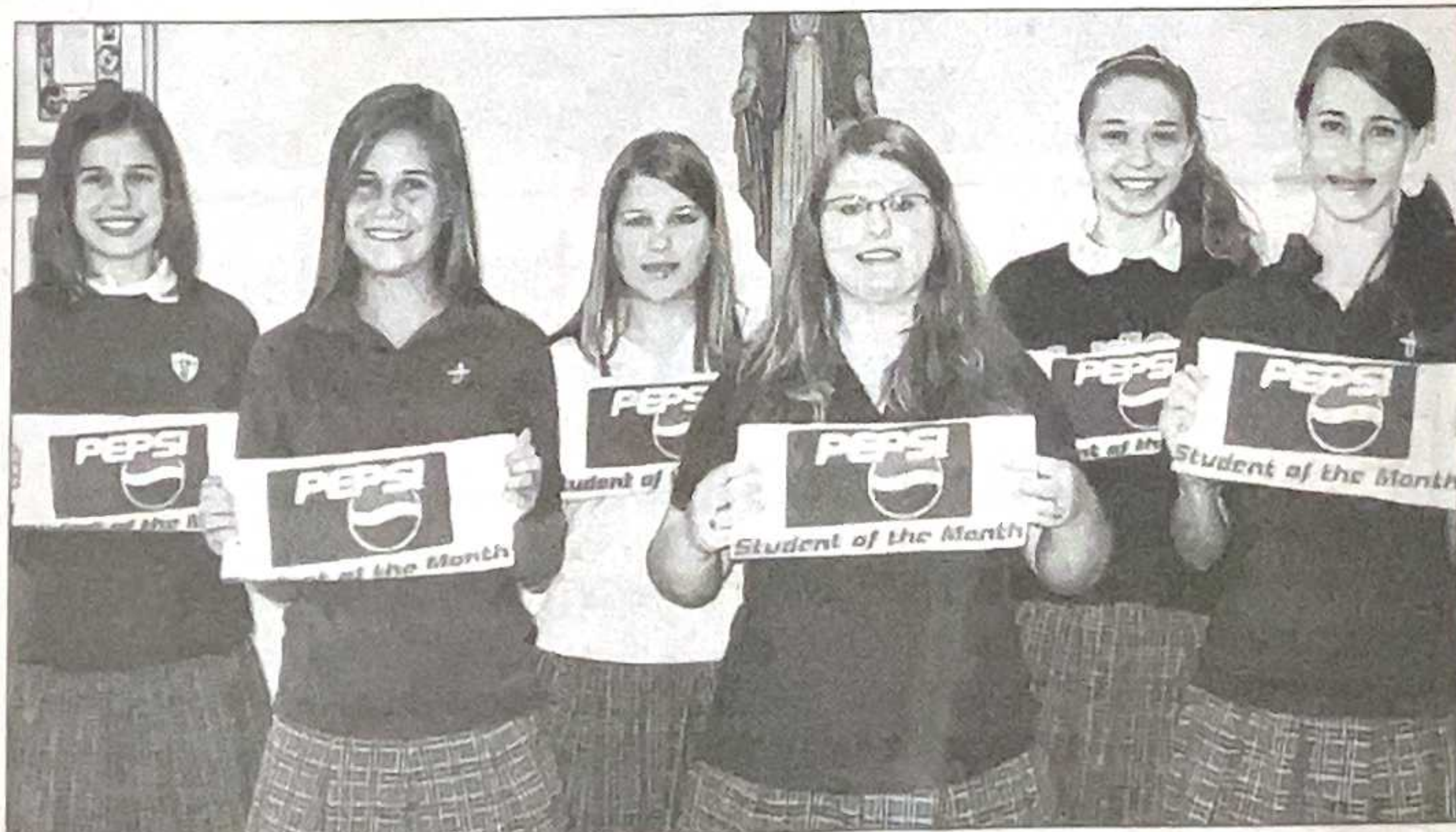
Kaitlin Collins, Student Body president, introduced the Junior Ring Ceremony. Sister M. Elisa Bauman, Campus Ministry Coordinator, read the Prayer for the Blessing of Rings as the Senior Class extended their hands over the juniors' rings.

Following the blessing, Mrs. Goggins formally called forward each junior who was escorted by members of the Senior Class. Jeannine Burch, Religion Department chair distributed the rings to the seniors who presented them to the Class of 2011.

The ceremony closed with the OLA "Alma Mater."



OLA's Pepsi Students for April, l-r, are: Kristen Morel, sophomore; Katherine Santa Cruz, senior; Deanna Garrard, freshman; Erin Gibson, junior; Brittany Corder, 7th grade; and Alex Ivy, 8th grade. Students are recognized by the OLA Faculty for their citizenship, scholarship, athletics, service, and school spirit for each month.



OLA's Pepsi Students for March, l-r, are: Courtney Geroux, freshman; Valerie Cariello, 7th grade; Sherri Airhart, junior; Tori Bonney, sophomore; Hannah Anderson, senior; and Leah Sandoz, 8th grade.

TUESDAY, JUNE 8, 2010

SUN HERALD | Editorial

CON-GRAT-U-LATIONS!

Coast student athletes put in stellar performances in statewide competition recently, and the Sun Herald congratulates them all.

The Long Beach Bearcats: Took home the Class 5A baseball trophy — their first state championship in that sport.

The St. Stanislaus Rockachaws: Outclassed everyone in Class 4A baseball to claim their first state baseball title.

(St. Stanislaus was the only Mississippi high school to play for boys state championships in football, baseball, basketball and soccer for the 2009-10 school year, capturing the crown in

football, baseball and soccer.)

The Ocean Springs Greyhounds:

Unbeaten during the regular season, the Greyhounds tennis team went on to win the Class 6A state team tennis championship. Members of the Greyhounds tennis team also captured three individual state championships.

The St. Patrick Fighting Irish:

■ For the third year in a row, the young ladies of St. Patrick won the Class I girls state golf championship.

■ For the first time, the young ladies of St. Patrick's won a state title in track by capturing the Class 3A crown.

B
2

Opinion

www.sunherald.com

THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 2010

SUN HERALD | Editorial

Congratulations! Congratulations! Congratulations!

The list of student athletes on the Coast who are champions this school year is an impressive one and we are pleased to add to it today.

The Gulfport High Admirals:

□ Won the 6A state championship in boys soccer

□ Won the 6A powerlifting championship.

The Bay High Tigers:

On Tuesday we noted that: "St. Stanislaus was the only Mississippi high school to play for boys state championships in football, baseball, basketball and soccer for the 2009-10 school year, capturing the crown in football, baseball and soccer."

Well, it was the boys from the Bay who kept the Rockachaws from making it a clean sweep by defeating them 51-39 for the Class 4A basketball crown.

The Crescents of Our Lady Academy in Bay St. Louis: The only all-girls school in the state had a banner year in sports.

□ They won their 7th state soccer title.
□ They won their 10th state volleyball title.
□ They won their first cross-country state title.

To find out how other teams from other schools performed in these and other sports, the Mississippi High School Activities Association's Web site is an excellent source of information (www.misshsaa.com).

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Our Lady Academy junior, **Helen Kyriakoudes**, was selected for recognition by St. Michael's College for her service and commitment to her community. She was presented the St. Michael's Book and Scholarship at the OLA Awards Ceremony on May 26.



Kyriakoudes St. Michael's College of Colchester, Vermont, recognizes outstanding students who demonstrate a commitment to volunteerism and leadership in their community. The college founders had a special commitment to serving others as an extension of their Catholic faith.

At the Awards Assembly, Kyriakoudes also received other recognition. She received certificates for maintaining the "A" Honor Roll for the first three terms of this year, for her commitment of eighty hours of service, for her accomplishment in the Math and Science competition, and for her work on the yearbook staff.

She was recognized for her induction into the Gregory J. Johnson Chapter of the National Latin Honor Society and for receiving a Commendation for making the

OLA/SSC track teams finish strong; Gibson siblings both win gold

BAY ST. LOUIS — For sister and brother Erin and Josh Gibson of Pass Christian, this has been a dream year for high school athletics. Both recently won gold medals at the MHSAA 2A and 4A State track meets in every event in which they competed.

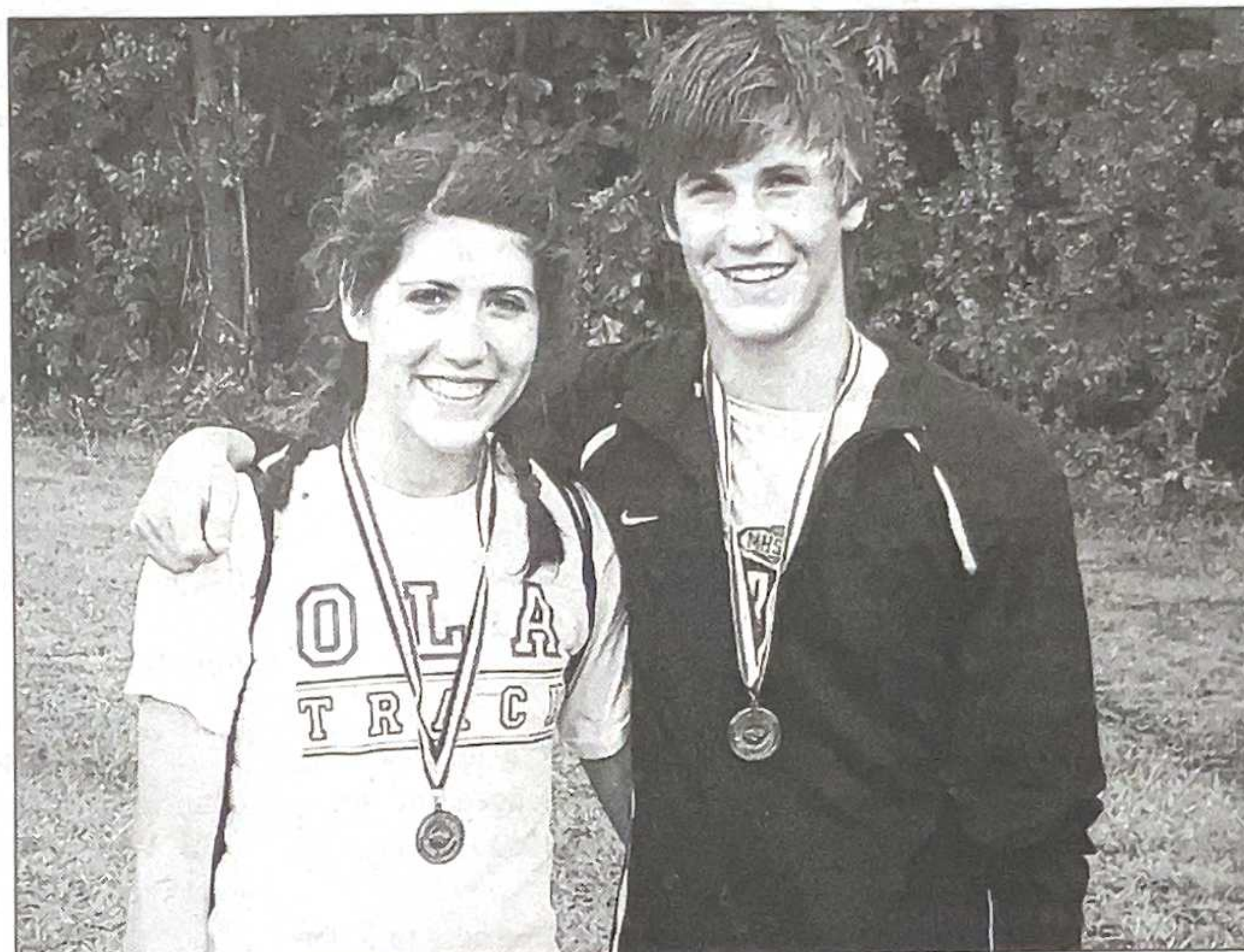
Erin, a junior at Our Lady Academy, was also was part of the OLA teams that won state championships in volleyball and soccer earlier this year.

Josh, a sophomore at St. Stanislaus, was part of the school soccer team who clinched the 4A boys state soccer title this year. He also competed for the State Cup during the last weekend in May in Jackson with a Gulf Coast United select soccer team.

Both are honor students. They are the children of Terry and Suzanne (Waits) Gibson, and are members of St. Thomas the Apostle Parish in Long Beach.

Love of sports runs deep in Erin and Josh Gibson's family.

Their father Terry Gibson played high school football/baseball, and community college baseball. Their mother Suzanne Waits Gibson (an OLA alumnae) played three sports. Cousins Whitney and Emily Waits (of St. Thomas Aquinas Parish in Hattiesburg) are on Oak Grove high school's fast pitch softball team which recently won the 6A South State title and played for the State championship. Whitney and Emily's mother is Renee



Erin and Josh Gibson both recently won gold medals at the MHSAA 2A and 4A State track meets in every event in which they competed. Erin Gibson attends Our Lady Academy; Josh attends St. Stanislaus. OLA's track team is below, left; SSC's team, below, right.

Boudousquie Waits who played high school/community college basketball. Their father is Billy Waits, a former St. Stanislaus and Millsaps College basketball standout and Millsaps sports hall of famer. And cousins Chris and Matt Krennek are talented high school baseball players in Florida; Chris graduates next

month and will play baseball next season with Northwest Florida State College.

OLA Track

At the recent 2A State track finals, Erin won first place in three individual events: the 100 meter dash (12:55 seconds), the 200 meter dash (25.4 seconds),

and the 400 meter dash (57.6 seconds); and anchored the winning 4x400 relay team. She set new personal records in the 100, 200, and 400 meter individual events, as well as two new OLA school records in the 200 and 400 meters. The 4x400 relay team of Shelby McConnell, Denise Powell, Lindsay Raybourn, and Gibson also set a new OLA school record with their time of 4:10.9.

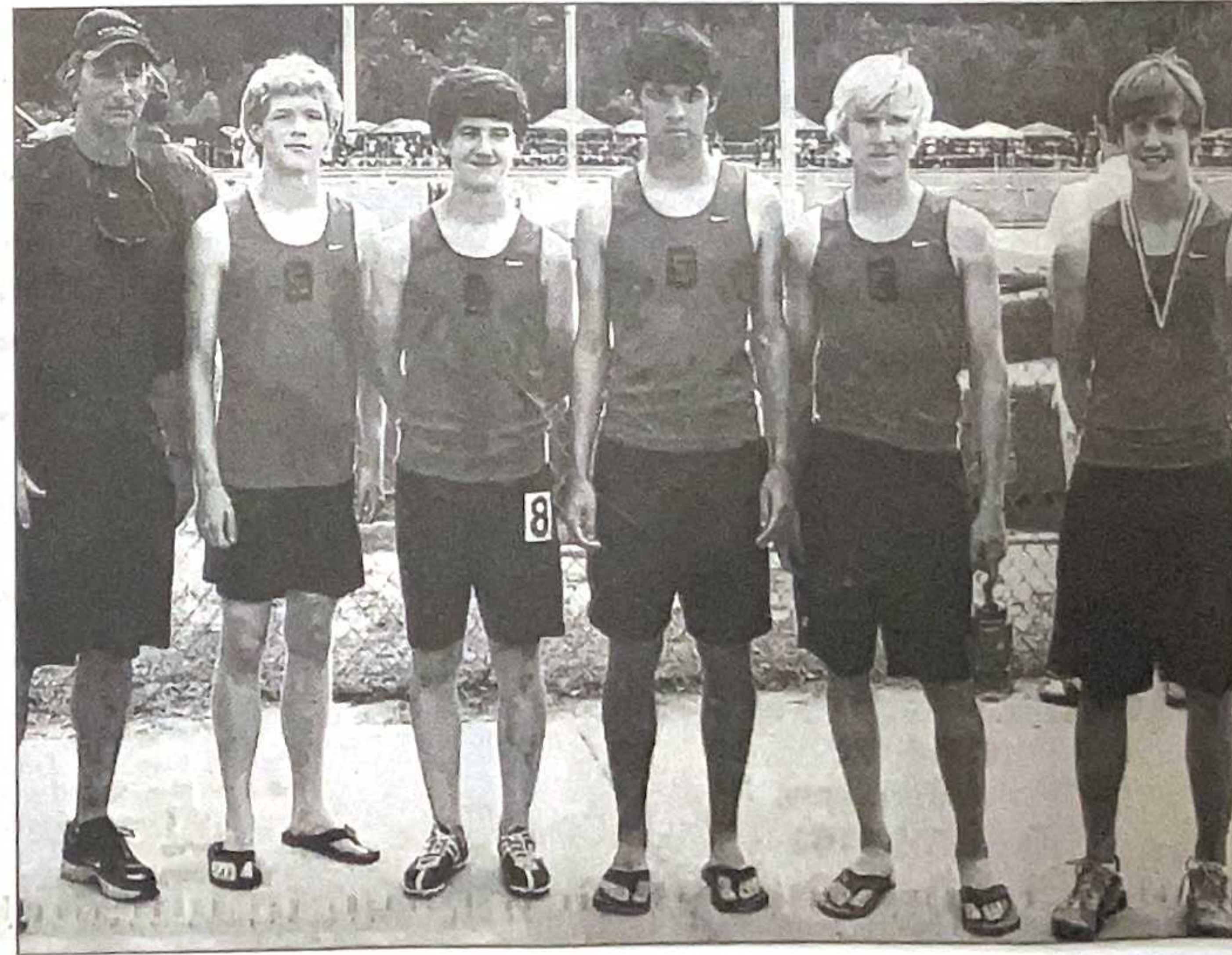
Josh recently won first place in boys pole vault at the 4A State meet with a personal best vault of 12 feet 6 inches. He has been increasing his vault height each year by 2-feet since his 8th grade year.

The track teams from OLA and SSC both worked hard this season and had strong overall performances at the State meet.

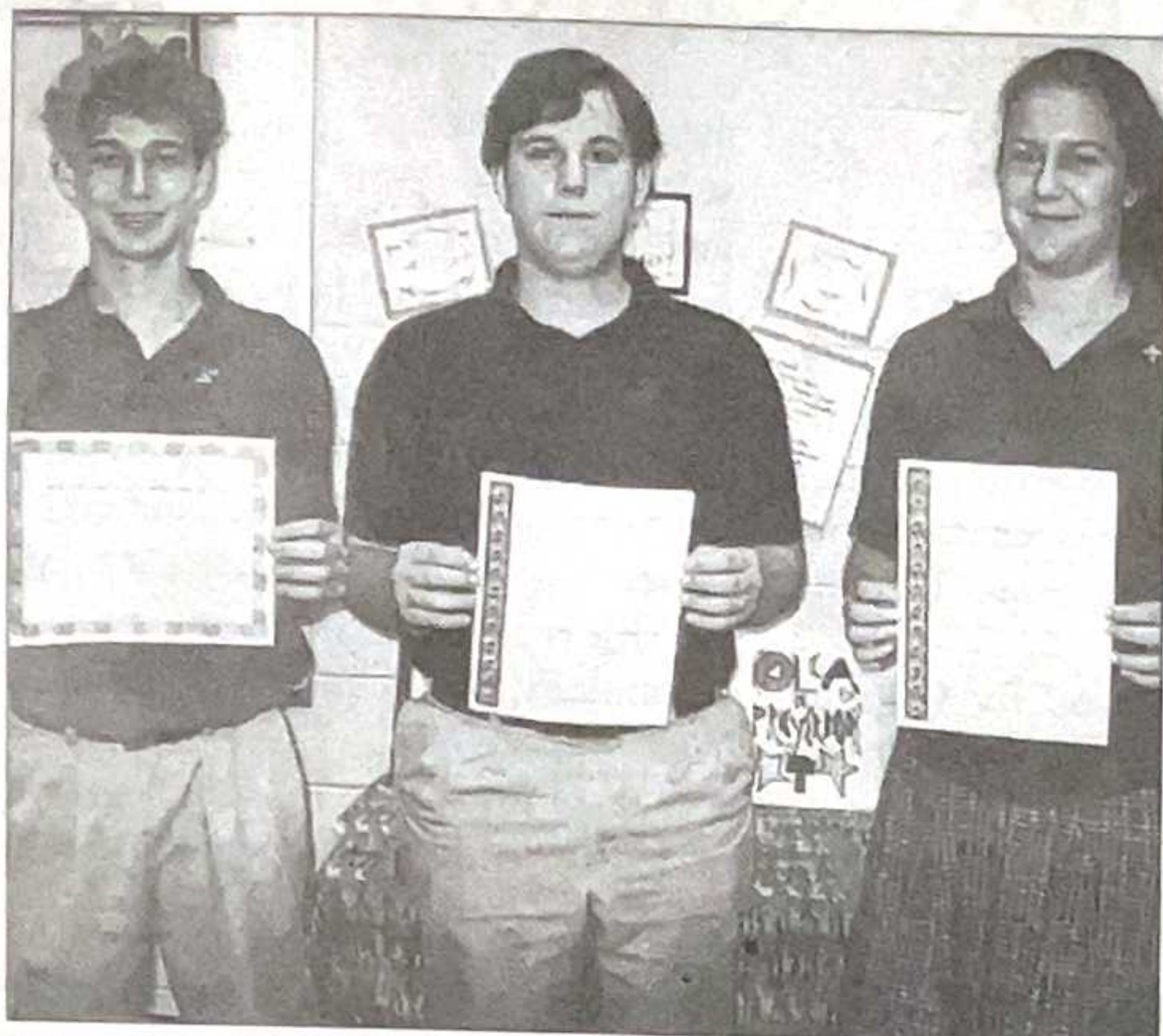
In addition to OLA's team winning District, Regional, and South State titles this year, the team came close to winning their first-ever school track and field state championship. OLA finished the meet as the State runner up with 117 points, losing the title by only 1 point to a school from middle Mississippi, J.Z. George. It was their best ever performance at State, as they garnered 5 first place medals, 4 second place medals, and 3 third place medals.

Coach Harry Hull (long time head track coach and teacher at OLA) knows how far the program has come over the years.

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Our Lady Academy, Bay St. Louis



Three Our Lady Academy Latin I students received awards for their outstanding performance in the 2010 ACL/NJC National Latin Exam (NLE). Above, left photo, l-r, SSC freshman, Miles Burnett, achieved the National Average in the Latin I level of the exam, and SSC freshmen, Chris Perkins and Katy McNally, OLA freshman both received a "Cum Laude" certificate in Latin I level. NLE, which originated in 1977, promotes Latin and the study of the Classics. The test includes Latin vocabulary and grammar, comprehension, mythology, Roman life and history, and derivatives. Each level of Latin has a different test. NLE is open to all students enrolled in Latin during the current academic year. Mercy Sister Elisa Bauman is the Latin teacher at OLA. Above, right, fourteen sophomore



Spanish II students were inducted into OLA's Santa Teresa de Avila Chapter of the Sociedad Honoraria Hispanica on May 4. They are, l-r, front: Emily McDermott, Mattison Scardino, Caroline Collins, Reagan Huey, and Meg Artigues; middle row: Jordan Benvenutti, Shelby Peranich, Samantha Spiers, and Cali Longo; and back row: Darby Raybourn, Allison Ariatti, Ashleigh Hoda, Kristin Morel, and Denise Powell. Sarah Haas, senior, was also inducted into the society. OLA joined the Sociedad in 2000, becoming the Santa Teresa de Avila Chapter. The charter was reinstated in 2006 following the losses of Hurricane Katrina. Marie Bartels, a teacher for thirty-five years, has taught Spanish I-III at Our Lady Academy since 1996.

News deadline for the June 25 issue is 4 pm, Fri., June 18. Advertisements are due by 10 am, Thurs., June 17.

OLA/SSC Track Teams

Continued from page 8

More girls are coming out for the team each year, and are continuing to train hard to improve. Coach Hull is now also supported by several assistant coaches. What it takes to win a team state championship against the tough 2A competitor J.Z. George is to have girls competing and placing in almost every event, and ideally medaling in first, second, or third place in as many events as possible to score more points. This is how J.Z. George girls have won the team title over the last three consecutive years, but now has serious competition from OLA.

Every member of OLA track team who competed in the State meet scored points in their events, and made a direct contribution to the team's overall performance and ranking. The girls are especially proud of that team effort, and are looking forward to making another run next year for the team title.

OLA's overall results are:

- Saiva Baker (Junior), 1st place Pole Vault (7 feet)
- Shelby McConnell (8th grade), 2nd place Pole Vault (7 feet)

(She set a new school record of 8 feet in the Regional meet)

- Denise Powell (Junior), 2nd place 3200 meter (12:23.43) (New school records of: 2nd place 1600 meter (5:29); 2nd place 800 meter (2:28.9); and 1st

place 4x400 relay (4:10.9)

- Mischa Tice (Senior), 3rd place Long Jump (17 ft. 4.5 in.) (broke school record in the Regional meet w/ a jump of 17 feet 8 inches.

- Callie McNally (Junior), 3rd place Shot Put (33 ft. 9.25 in.); 3rd place Discus (90 ft 2 in.) set new school record at a previous meet;

- Lindsay Raybourn (8th grade); 4th place 3200 meter (12:46.97); 5th place 1600 meter (5:48); 4th place 800 meter (2:34.3); new OLA record: 1st place 4x400 relay (4:10.9)

- Mara Baker (Freshman), 6th place Triple Jump (31 ft, 00.50 in).

Other OLA teammates who did not compete at State but gave strong performances in Division, Regional, and South State competition include:

- Kirsty Schmitt (Senior), High Jump, 7th at South State with personal record of 4 feet 8 inches;

- Savannah Matthews (Freshman), 300 meter hurdles, 7th at South State;

- Jenny Byrne (Freshman), Discus, placed 5th at Division meet;

- Katy McNally (Freshman), Shot put - placed 3rd place at Division meet; and

- 4x100 and 4x200 relay team of Shelby McConnell (8th grade), Abby Gollott (7th grade), Liza Rittiner (7th grade) and Tiffany Jones (7th grade); 5th place in

both events at Regionals

SSC Track

St. Stanislaus finished 10th out of 33 teams at the 4A State meet with five people, and made school history when they placed 1st and 2nd in pole vault. Although placing 2nd in pole vault from a tie breaker situation, senior Briou Bourgeois had blazed the way all season with 1st place finishes at all of the prior track meets, including a South State championship. Briou was awarded several awards recently at the SSC Spring Sports Awards Ceremony, including the Mr. Rock-A-Chaw award. Freshmen Bennett Holland, Bingham Wikoff, and Gavis Gros ran well and will be back in action even stronger next year.

SSC's overall results are:

- Josh Gibson (Sophomore) 1st in Pole Vault (12 feet, 6 inches; fewer misses);

- Briou Bourgeois (Senior) 2nd in Pole Vault (12 feet 6 inches);

- Bennett Holland (Freshman) 4th in 800 meter dash (2:06.7), and 8th in 1600 meter dash (5:07.40);

- Bingham Wikoff (Freshman) 7th in 3200 meter dash (11:14.50);

- Gavis Gros (Freshman) - 7th in 1600 meter dash (4:57.00).

Student & school news

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Mischa Tice with Coach Harry Hull.

Mischa Tice, daughter of Patricia and Everett Tice of Bay St. Louis, was presented the 2010 Hull Award by Christi Elias, OLA's Athletic Director, at the Our Lady Academy Senior Awards Ceremony in May. Tice was designated the Best All-Around Athlete at Our Lady Academy.

The Hull Award is named for Harry Hull, OLA's first Athletic Director, and is presented to the senior who has distinguished herself, during her years at OLA, in multiple school sports and excelled in each.

Coach Hull has coached basketball, volleyball, soccer, track, and cross country at OLA, and according to Coach Elias, "represents Our Lady Academy's athletic programs past, present, and future."

In announcing the Hull Award, Coach Elias said Tice has contributed to three varsity sports.

In soccer this year, she helped to lead the team to the district championship, the south state championship, and the state championship. She also helped the OLA soccer team win the 2007 state championship and the 2006, 2008, and 2009 state runner-up title.

Tice was a five-year player (2006-2010), a four-year varsity letterman, and team captain in soccer. Her varsity career goals were 70, and she had 33 varsity career assists.

In addition, Tice was an All-Division

Player, an All Coast Player, an All Star Team Member, and a Sun Herald Player of the Week.

In volleyball, Tice was a four-year player (2006-2009), a two-year letterman (2008-2009), and a senior year varsity starter.

During her four years, the OLA volleyball team won the district championship and the state championship four times.

Her volleyball stats included 98 kills, 123 service points, and 48 service aces.

Tice was a three-year participant (2006-07, 2010) and a two-year letterman (2006, 2010) in track.

Having won the 2010 Class 2A district, region, and south state meets, OLA lost the state track championship by one point. Tice won a bronze medal with her third place finish in the state long jump.

In the 2010 district meet which OLA won, Tice placed first in long jump, 3rd in the 100 m. dash, third in the 200 m dash, and fourth in the high jump.

In the District Meet in 2006, Tice placed first in the 200 m dash, second in the 400 m dash, fourth in the long jump, and sixth in the 100 m dash. In the regional meet, Tice placed second in the long jump, fourth in the 200 m dash, and fifth in the 400 m dash. In the South State Meet, Tice placed sixth in the 200 m dash and sixth in the long jump.

OLA won first place in the 2006 District and Regional meets, and third place in the 2006 South State Meet.

Tice has accepted a scholarship from the University of Southern Mississippi where she plans to study nursing.

The Hull Award was first presented in 2002. Previous Hull Award winners were: Elizabeth Milner, 2009; Emily Hall, 2008; Amanda Meyers, 2007; Lakasia Ducksworth, 2006; Jordan Fisher, 2005; Rachel Cranford, 2004; Catherine Milner and Julie Reboul, 2003; and Emily Meyers, 2002.

OLA junior **Hanna Schloemer**, has been selected to participate in the 2010 session of the Mississippi Governor's School to be held in June. Governor's School is a three-week residential honors program established in 1981 by Governor William F. Winter and the faculty and administration at Mississippi University for Women.

The design of Governor's School is to provide academic, creative and leader-

ship experiences for a limited number of high school juniors and seniors who have demonstrated exceptional ability and achievement in academic and community involvement and who show high intellectual, creative, and leadership potential.

Schloemer is the daughter of Anne and Doug Schloemer of Long Beach.



Schloemer

OLA senior, **Whitney St. Mary**, received a \$3,500 Tuition Scholarship from Schoen Heier Bonura at the OLA Awards Ceremony on May 26.



St. Mary

Schoen Heier, a 1989 Our Lady Academy alumna, instituted a special scholarship two years ago as a means of

helping a worthy student continue her pursuit of a Catholic education at OLA.

Since that time, while planning for her wedding, Heier and her husband-to-be decided not to ask for wedding gifts for themselves, but instead monetary contributions for their future tuition scholarship for an OLA student who has excelled in academics, leadership, and service to her school and community.

St. Mary, daughter of Theresa and Todd St. Mary of Pass Christian, also received the All-A Honor Roll Award for maintaining a 4.0 GPA for the first three terms of the school year and was recognized as the 2009 September Pepsi Student of the Month from her class.

She is a member of the Student Ministry Retreat Team and the varsity SSC cheerleading squad. She has been chosen to be a member of the WOLA Anchor Team for prayers and announcements next year.

Last year, Darby Raybourn, freshman, received a \$2,000 tuition scholarship from Heier.



Twenty-six graduate at Our Lady Academy

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BAY ST. LOUIS -- Our Lady Academy graduated twenty-six seniors at its thirty-sixth graduation ceremony May 29, in Our Lady of the Gulf Church.

Bishop Roger P. Morin, principal celebrant of the liturgy, was assisted by Father Michael Tracey, pastor of OLG, and priests from neighboring parishes.

OLA's 2010 graduates are: Hannah Anderson, Melody Campbell, Elizabeth Carambat, Kaitlin Collins, Madison Conaway, Elizabeth Currie, Kristin Gardner, Sarah Haas, Katherine Holland, Sara LaRosa, Alexis Leach, Sarah Martinolich, Mary McCubbin, Paige Muse, Lauren Necaie, Lauren Quakenbush, Shelby Rigby, Catherine Rittiner, Katherine Santa Cruz, Kirsty Schmitt, Abigail Simpson, Mischa Tice, Haleigh Treutel, Shelby Wagner, Nikki Wild, and Mary Anne Wood.

Paige Elizabeth Muse is OLA's valedictorian; Sarah Lawnin Haas, the salutatorian

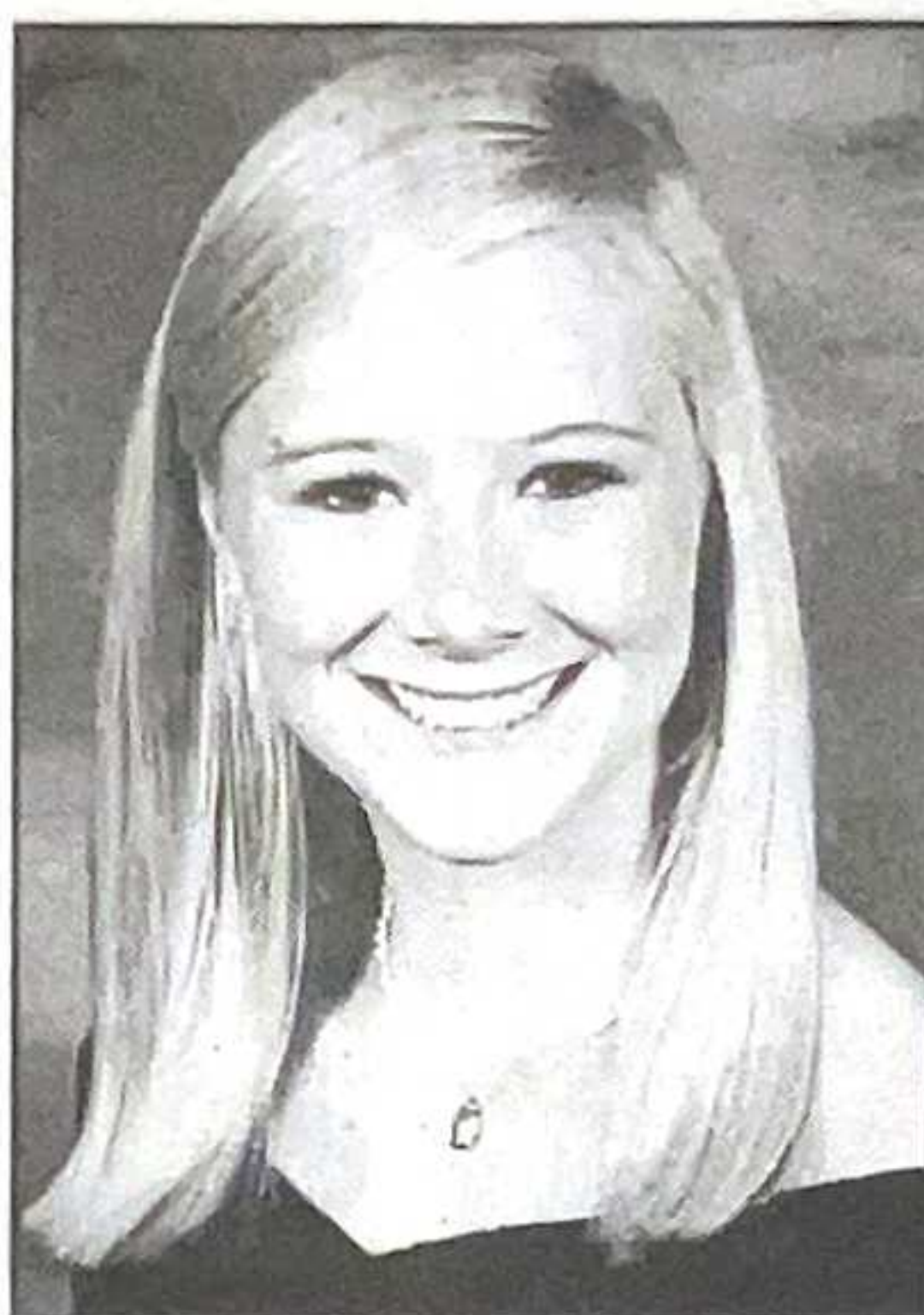
The OLA Msgr. Martin Maloney Chapter of the National Honor Society members — Hannah Anderson, Melody Campbell, Kaitlin Collins, Kristin Gardner, Sarah Haas, Paige Muse, Katherine Santa Cruz, Abigail Simpson, and Shelby Wagner — wore blue stoles with their white graduation gowns.

Following the Liturgy, Sister Jacqueline Howard, OLA president, called the names of the Class of 2010. Bishop Morin and OLA principal, Susan Goggins, presented the diplomas to the seniors.

Valedictorian

Muse, daughter of Patrice and Rob Muse of Diamondhead, is a three-year member of the OLA Msgr. Martin Maloney Chapter of the National Honor Society and a two-year member and a past vice-president of the OLA Gregory J. Johnson Chapter of the Latin Honor Society. She was a two-year member of the OLA Junior National Honor Society in grades 8-9. A Principal's Honor Roll student, in her junior and senior years, Muse studied six courses in the Advanced Placement Curriculum (English III, English IV, Calculus, Biology, European History, and Psychology).

She was treasurer of the OLA Student Council, president of her junior class and a Pepsi Student of the Month each year during grades 9-11.



Paige Elizabeth Muse
Valedictorian

As a senior, Muse was a member of the WOLA Anchor Team for daily prayer and announcements and a member of SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions). She was also a member of the Student Ministry Retreat Team in grades 11-12 and a four-year member of Campus Ministry, a service and community out-reach organization.

Participating in the Math and Science Competition at Millsaps College this year, Muse received a scholarship for the top 20 percent in Biology.

A four-year member of the Elite Dance Team, "The Bay City Dancers," she is also a four-year member of the SSC Cheerleading Team. She participated in the Speech and Drama Night in grade 10.

A six-year member of the Diamondhead Baptist Church, Muse participated in directing the Vacation Bible School. She also participated in the "March for Life" held in Washington, D.C. in 2009 and 2010.

In the community, she assisted with post-Katrina cleanup, and at the St. Thomas Fall Festival, and the Bay-Waveland Wave Fest. At the Senior Awards Banquet, she was recognized for her service commitment of 61 hours.

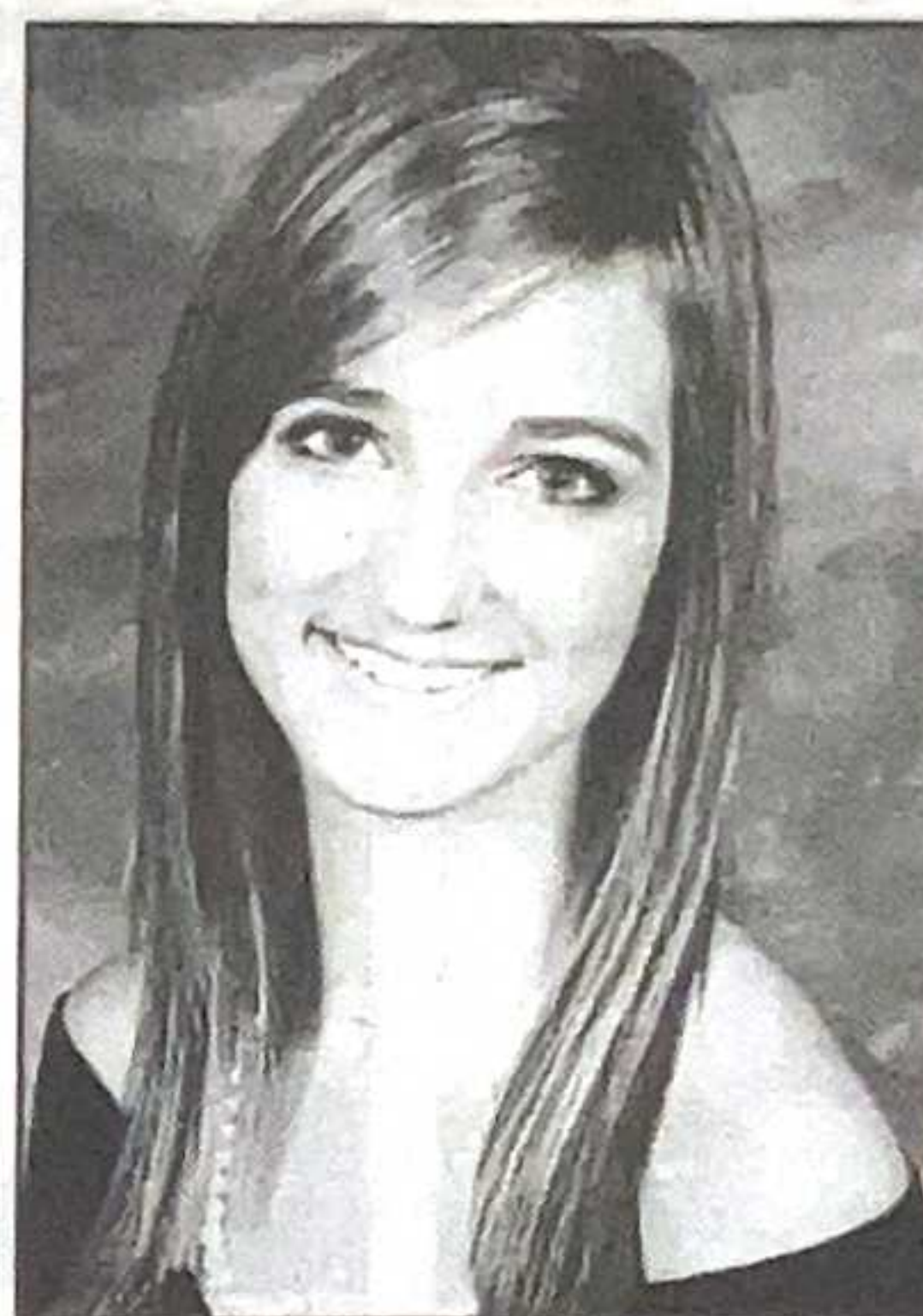
She is also a dance instructor at Arabesque School of Dance.

She will attend Southeastern Louisiana University where she received the Academic Excellence Scholarship to pursue a degree in nursing and health services.

Salutatorian

Sarah Haas, daughter of Barbara and Michael Haas Jr., lives in Bay St. Louis. She is a three-year member and current vice-president of the OLA Msgr. Martin Maloney Chapter of the National Honor Society, a two-year member and a past president of the OLA Gregory J. Johnson Chapter of the Latin Honor Society, and a member of the OLA Chapter of the Sociedad Honoraria Hispanica.

A Principal's Honor Roll student, Haas studied five



Sarah Lawnin Haas
Salutatorian

courses in the Advanced Placement Curriculum during her junior and senior years (English III, English IV, Calculus, U.S. History, and European History). As a senior, she also studied Spanish II, Economics, Computer Applications, and Religion IV.

Haas was named a Pepsi Student of the Month each year during grades 9-12 and the Pepsi Student of the Year each year during grades 9-11. She was OLA's Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership Ambassador in grade 10, and was a two-year member of the Junior National Honor Society in grades 8-9.

As a senior, she received the Principal's Leadership Award. As a junior, she was awarded the St. Michael's College Service and Leadership Scholarship. For her performance in the Latin I level of the National Latin Exam in grade 9, she received a Magna Cum Laude

Certificate.

Haas was her freshman and senior class president, yearbook editor-in-chief in grade 12, yearbook assistant editor in grades 10-11, and student council treasurer in grade 11. She was a Mississippi Math and Science Competitor in grades 11-12.

A six-year member of the OLA Campus Ministry (a service and community-outreach organization), Haas was named the Presider in grade 9 to conduct business meetings for grades 7-9 and was selected as the Class Representative in grades 10-11.

In the SADD organization (Students Against Destructive Decisions), she was a representative in grade 10 and the secretary in grade 11. She was a member of the WOLA Anchor Team for daily prayer and announcements in grade 12.

As a Student Ministry Retreat Team member, she helped coordinate class retreats in grades 11-12. A diocesan Search team member, she also helped to coordinate retreat activities for juniors and seniors in the diocese.

She is a parishioner at Our Lady of the Gulf Parish in Bay St. Louis, where she was an altar server in grades 4-6. She made a mission trip to Saltillo, Mexico as a sophomore.

Haas participated in various service projects including the coastal clean-up, Habitat for Humanity, animal shelters, and blood drives. In grades 10-11, she was recognized for her many service hours with an "Outstanding Service Award." In her senior year she was recognized with a Presidential Service pin and certificate for performing over 360 hours of service.

She will attend the University of Alabama, where she received a Scholar Scholarship, to pursue a degree in pre-medicine.

Members of the Class of 2010 were inducted into the OLA Alumnae Association and received Academic Awards, Scholarship Certificates, and Participation Awards in clubs and organizations at the Senior Awards Banquet on May 11.

2010